



Doors Open on CFS 2026: NATCA President Nick Daniels and Safety Chair John Murdock Welcome the Room



NATCA's Communicating For Safety 2026 got underway with NATCA President Nick Daniels and Safety Chair John Murdock opening the conference, with Potomac TRACON (PCT) (Ret.) NATCA member AnnMarie Sullivan singing the national anthem. Daniels and Murdock set the tone for three days built around our conference [theme](#): Connect. Learn. Change.



Jon Acuff Kicks Off CFS 2026 With an Opening Keynote



The premier aviation safety conference opened its keynote programming with New York Times bestselling author Jon Acuff, giving the room a jolt of energy before three days of technical sessions, panels, and peer exchange.

CFS 2026 Fireside Chat: Nick Daniels and Frank McIntosh on Where the NAS Stands



NATCA President Nick Daniels sat down with FAA Chief Operating Officer Frank McIntosh at Communicating For Safety 2026 for an unscripted look at the state of the National Airspace System — the pressures facing the controller workforce, where the NATCA-FAA partnership stands today, and the technology shifts headed for the floor.

CFS 2026: Seth Myers and Daniel Carrico Named Steve Hansen Safety Advocates

NATCA Safety Chair John Murdock presented NATCA members and Air Safety Investigators Seth Myers (Boston Center, ZBW) and Daniel Carrico (Chicago O'Hare ATCT, ORD) with the Steve Hansen Safety Advocate Award. Named for the former National Safety Committee Chair, the award goes to members whose advocacy pushes the whole system forward.



New England Regional Vice President Kevin Curtiss, Boston Center FacRep Kevin Coeyman, and Boston Center Facility Vice President Dustin Frost accepted the award on behalf of Seth Myers.

Great Lakes Regional Vice President Dean Von Almen and Chicago O'Hare ATCT FacRep Matt Ellington accepted the award on behalf of Dan Carrico.

CFS 2026: Memphis Facilities Earn the Helping Hearts Award



Memphis ATCT (MEM) and Memphis TRACON (M03) earned this year's NATCA Helping Hearts Award, presented by NATCA Great Lakes Regional OSHA Representative Xavier Rivera. This OSHA Committee honor goes to the facility with the highest share of staff trained on AEDs — a quiet form of readiness that pays off when seconds count.

Tim Givens (Memphis TRACON, M03) accepted the award for both facilities.

CFS 2026 Breakout Spotlights

Let's Talk Peer Support



CFS attendees got the latest updates on NATCA's developments in Peer Support while also learning more about

Latest Developments in Weather Systems & Technologies



MIT Lincoln Laboratory's Air Traffic Control & Weather Systems Group has been developing aviation weather

how Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Professional Standards programs support members, strengthen professionalism, and promote safety.

Learn more about CISM [here](#).

sensors, forecasts and decision support technologies for over 50 years. This presentation described their latest prototypes which are currently being tested and refined with users in operational ATC and airline facilities.

Watch NATCA's Communicating For Safety 2026 Live, From Anywhere

You don't have to be in the Horseshoe Event Center to connect, learn, and change alongside us. NATCA is streaming main stage programming from Communicating For Safety 2026, the premier aviation safety conference, live on natca.org — keynotes, panels, and award presentations, as they happen. Members, industry partners, and the traveling public are all welcome to tune in and be part of the national safety conversation.

Join us starting at 9:00 a.m. PDT on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at natca.org/stream.

See the [agenda](#) for more information.

**Can't make it to CFS?
Watch the live stream on
natca.org/stream**



SEPT. 14-16, 2026

**Attending CFS or Streaming from Home? Submit
Your Questions Live**

You can be a part of the premiere [aviation safety conference](#) from anywhere in the world. Attendees and viewers following the livestream on natca.org can submit questions for main stage speakers through Slido in real time. Speakers may answer your question during the session. Join [here](#).



**Submit your
questions for our
main stage
speakers via Slido**



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CFS 2026 Coming Soon: A Look Inside NATCA's Role in Major NTSB Investigations

When a serious accident happens in the National Airspace System, NATCA's air safety investigators are often working behind the scenes long before the public ever hears the findings. Ahead of CFS 2026, we're publishing a closer look at how NATCA earns a seat at the table for investigations into incidents like the DCA midair collision and the LaGuardia runway collision — and why that seat matters for every controller in the system. Read the full story on natca.org, then hear more on this and other topics at Communicating For Safety.

Can't make it to Las Vegas? Watch it live on the stream at natca.org/stream.

Read the article on our website

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