Reachout No. 19

Brisbane, Australia 4 - 7 December 2006

Introduction

In August, 2006, Lindsay Naylor was asked by some ASASI members if ASASI could provide some investigative type training to their respective organisations. Lindsay pursued the request with the assistance of some Australian ISASI corporate members and ran a four day training session at Brisbane, Australia from December 4-7 2006.

Technical Content

The four day workshop included a variety of subjects including a legal overview of accident investigation; Annex 13 and the role of the Accredited Representative; witness interviewing; human factors; use of field equipment; photography; wreckage mapping; site survey; graphic reconstruction; and, structural fundamentals. Participants were introduced to accident investigation history; forensic engineering; material failures and dealing with the media and next of kin. Case studies included the review of a Sea King accident investigation as well as another actual investigation. Blood borne pathogen training was also provided.

Instructors

Led by Lindsay Naylor, (who was also one of the first ISASI Reachout instructors in Prague at Reachout #1) instructors included numerous industry representatives.

Participants

50 people participated in the workshop from across many sectors of the Australian aviation industry (airlines, regulator, manufacturers, investigating authority, Defence and others).

In his welcoming address, Lindsay briefed comprehensively on ISASI, what the Reachout program is all about, and indicated that this was the 19th such activity in the series. Clearly the seminar generated considerable interest in ISASI and we have had several new member applications.

An informal dinner was held on the Wednesday evening and this further assisted participants in 'comparing notes' and getting to know each other.

A common remark after the workshop was, 'When is the next one, because a lot of my colleagues would benefit from attending?'

Lindsay has broached the subject with NZSASI and suggested that, "if there is this level of interest in informal investigative training on this side of the Tasman Sea, the New Zealand side is probably not too different, and they may care to run a similar event".

Positive feedback has been flooding in. Typical of the comments was one email which stated, inter alia:

'I very much enjoyed the course and it has certainly benefited my professional development. It was great to meet so many inspiring aviation professionals and the calibre of the speakers was exceptional! I would very much recommend the course to future participants and hope that it continues in the future.'

Feedback of this nature is certainly encouraging for the presenters and organisers, but more than that, Lindsay believes it confirms that the aviation fraternity is always interested in furthering their education and knowledge in this very dynamic arena.

Sponsorships

Lindsay reported that the informal investigative training seminar was remarkably successful, and this was largely due to the support received from several ISASI corporate members – ATSB, DSTO, DDAAFS and Qantas. Clearly without this assistance, the seminar would not have succeeded, as they met all the expenses for their presenting staff in terms of travel, accommodation and meals for the activity. Because of the corporate support, expenses to attendees were kept to a minimum.