



The

Safety

Wire

February 2023

One of the most underrated things when we think safety culture, I believe, is the administration side of things. Sometimes, we have many different ways of doing a particular task, so things are spread out and hard to track. I think a great way to encompass all of this is using a program that brings all the aviation unit administrative paperwork together in one place. It creates an easy, streamlined way of tracking aircraft mx, personnel currency, FRATs and aircraft trends. This creates the ability to track all of this stuff on the fly and makes it available to everyone in the unit.



Over the past few weeks, I have been doing some research on applying this and what programs would work best for an overall one-stop shop. I think it would provide a phenomenal advantage in safety culture for each person in the aviation unit to be able to track maintenance, currency, and past FRAT and mission logs.

One program I have researched for this, and this is by no means an endorsement for this product over others, is Airborne Commander. I have seen great feedback from their users.



It has great features that will increase overall situational awareness for all involved in the unit, allow for on-the-fly inputs or adjustments, and provides the ability to view everything all at once, even from a cell phone. It also allows for a fully customizable FRAT that can cater specifically to your unit and mission profiles. When considering safety and having a good culture, this is a massive advantage because it's not generic and provides the ability to accurately depict the risk associated with the mission for which it's filled out. As with all things, programs like these cost

money and may not be considered necessary by command staff. If what you've been doing works and there is no money to update to a new program, then use what resources there are to promote safety culture elsewhere, like training. One option may be to build an Excel spreadsheet and keep everything on a shared drive so everyone in the unit has access to all necessary documents.

However, if you can persuade the powers that be for the funding, look into programs like the one described above and see what works best for your aviation unit.

Keep in mind that offering up new ideas is not to say you have been doing it wrong or that it doesn't work anymore. It is simply that new technologies and methodologies provide new tools and resources to help us do our job better and more efficiently. Aviation is a constantly changing industry that provides us the ability to build off the great foundations that have been laid over the years.



ONLINE MEETINGS

APSA conducts regularly scheduled online meetings for safety officers, maintenance technicians, SAR personnel and Natural Resources personnel, and UAS operators via a conference call you can join using your computer, mobile device or phone. Online meetings are open to any APSA member. Contract maintenance providers to APSA members are welcome to participate in the maintenance meeting as well. If you would like to join, send an email to: tpalmer@publicsafetyaviation.org

The schedule for upcoming APSA online meetings is as follows.



UAS:

Wednesday, March 1, 2023
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EST (1800 UTC)

Safety:

Friday, March 17, 2023
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT (1700 UTC)

Natural Resources:

Wednesday, March 29, 2023
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT (1700 UTC)

Maintenance:

Wednesday, April 5, 2023
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT (1700 UTC)

Search and Rescue:

Wednesday, April 19, 2023
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EDT (1700 UTC)

"It's not what happens to you, but how you react to it that matters."

~ Epictetus

In each monthly emergency situation, discuss what you would do, as a crew, to respond to the following emergency. If the EP does not apply to your specific aircraft, think of something similar.

Engine Fire in Flight