

The MARPA Supplement

Volume 3, Issue 10

October 9, 2009

Quick Notes:

- Thank you for the tremendous support at the 2009 MARPA Conference
- We will have articles about the Conference subjects starting next month.
- We have published Conference presentations on our website.
- [See MARPA's Blog at http://pmaparts.wordpress.com](http://pmaparts.wordpress.com) for expanded versions of Supplement articles and additional features.
- **Please file comments on the SMS ANRPM. The FAA needs to hear your comments about the similarity between COS and SMS. Please also share copies with MARPA.**

MARPA

2233 Wisconsin Ave., NW
Suite 503
Washington, DC 20007
Tel: (202) 628-6777
Fax: (202) 628-8948
Jason@WashingtonAviation.Com

President

Jason Dickstein

Meetings and Membership

Manager

Katt Stanley

Board of Directors

Nate Dalton
John Hunter
Bruce Johnson
Dennis Piotrowski
Rod Sands
Kent Whitmer



MARPA Conference Success!

MARPA's annual conference

boasted a registration list of 223 people. This number is noteworthy because most aviation conferences are suffering from lower numbers in 2009, but MARPA was up over 15%.

We were up in every category—more PMA compa-

nies, more air carriers, and more FAA employees. There was business happening in the hallways, and several speakers announced important initiatives.

Our Gold Sponsors, BELAC, Chromalloy, and Jet parts Engineering were very important to this success, as was Heico, who is

our opening night reception sponsor (a double-gold sponsor).

Several presentations were not available on the USB distributed at the Conference. They are now available in the Conference section of our website, as are copies of the presentations that featured last-minute changes.

Safety Management Systems (SMS) Comments Due Oct. 21

Your opportunity to file advance comments on the FAA's SMS proposal is NOW! Comments are due October 21.

An SMS is the formal process of using System Safety practices in an organization's everyday activities to control risk. Essentially, SMS is like a quality assurance system that uses risk-based analysis to look forward and predict future needs. This allows a company using SMS to commit resources in the present to address future safety needs.

SMS may not be as for-

ign a concept as it may initially sound. Many MARPA member companies have implemented Continued Operational Safety (COS) programs. COS programs permit safety data collection and risk-based analysis of that data and are viewed as providing the necessary infrastructure to support an SMS program.

A primary focus of this ANPRM is on collecting data about existing SMS programs. **MARPA member companies' data and information about their implementation of Continued Operation Safety**

(COS) programs is an example of data that would be very useful to the FAA.

MARPA member companies should forward copies of their comments to MARPA headquarters so that we can be sure your comments and concerns are also addressed in MARPA's own comments.

More information on SMS programs and on the FAA and ICAO proposals is available on the MARPA blog.

Don't forget to visit the MARPA
blog at [http://
pmaparts.wordpress.com](http://pmaparts.wordpress.com)

Part 21 is Coming ... Really!

The Part 21 rulemaking—a complete overhaul of the Part 21 manufacturing rules—has been released from OMB and will be published in the Federal Register in a matter of days.

This new set of rules is expected to have a number of small effects on PMA manufacturers ... but when you put a few small effects together they can add up to a big effect, so we are cautiously awaiting the final language.

MARPA was active in the public elements of the rulemaking process. MARPA's three founders all participated in the ARAC Rulemaking Committee that proposed the rule to the FAA in February 1999. We also filed public comments during the notice-and-comment period.

MARPA will continue to be actively involved in the rule change. We are

working with the FAA to help arrange a series of public meetings at which the FAA can introduce the major features of the new rule, to better support the compliance process. Look for these meetings happening in the last two months of 2009.

MARPA also plans to host a Winter meeting with the FAA, so that companies can talk about the hurdles they may be facing in implementing the new standards in their own facilities.

Of course, we will also maintain a regular dialogue with the FAA about this rule, so if you recognize problems in the new rule (e.g. new rule encourages unsafe practices, higher-than-expected costs, unexpected impediments to implementation, etc.), then please alert us immediately so we can be sure to begin working with the FAA on resolving any such problems.

Have You Started Thinking About the 2010 MARPA Conference?

We are already lining up sponsors and exhibitors for the 2010 conference. This year's pricing for sponsorships remains in effect through December 30, but sponsorships placed after 2009 will incur a higher price.

Want to take a more active role in planning? Nate Dalton chairs the Conference Committee, which helps to plan and implement the logistics of the Conference.

If you would like to join the Committee, or if you would like to talk about sponsorships and exhibiting, then please call Katt Stanley at (202) 628-6777

MARPA Creates an Opportunity for YOU

The MARPA Board created several new committees, and gave an existing committee a new direction, at the Board meeting on September 29. These Committees represent your opportunity to "be a part of the action" and to take a more active role in shaping the future of the PMA industry.

Several members have suggested that MARPA should be better marketing the Association and its service, as

well as marketing the PMA industry. The **Marketing Committee** will help create a marketing plan for Board review, and will help implement the Board-approved plan.

The new **Technical Committee** will review government proposals and provide technical feedback to help support high-quality MARPA comments. This is an important group because their feedback will help shape a wide variety of FAA policies.

The **COS/SMS Committee** is an expansion of the COS Committee. It will continue to promote COS systems, but it will also serve as a resource to the FAA Aviation Rulemaking Committee that is charged with developing a SMS rule (the new paradigm for safety systems).

We need your help! Please contact Katt Stanley at (202) 628-6777 if you would like to volunteer for any of these committees.

- «Line 1»
- «Line 2»
- «Line 3»
- «Line 4» «Line 5»

Got something to say? You can read and comment on articles on the MARPA Web Log (Blog) online at pmaparts.wordpress.com or through our homepage (www.pmamarpa.com). Sign up for updates via email or RSS feed!