



## RELEASE OF SENATE INQUIRY REPORT

The report of the Senate Inquiry into the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority was released in September. The report made three recommendations:

- The Government to introduce a small board of up to five members for enhanced oversight and strategic direction by reviewing funding arrangements to ensure CASA is equipped for the new regulatory challenges
- In accordance with the findings of the Hawke Taskforce, that the Regulatory Reform Program be brought to conclusion as quickly as possible to provide certainty to industry and ensure CASA and industry are ready to address future safety challenges
- That the Australian National Audit Office audit CASA's implementation and administration of its safety management systems approach.

## ICAO PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

A select group of senior executives from the aviation sector across Australasia and the South Pacific gathered in Melbourne on October 16 for a special executive briefing with the Council President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),

Mr Roberto Kobeh González. The unique, invitation-only, private gathering, organised by the Aviation Safety Foundation Australasia in partnership with the Flight Safety Foundation, gave participants the opportunity to discuss key issues confronting the aviation sector during what are proving to be extremely



Mr González pictured front left. Pic courtesy Aviation Safety Foundation A'sia

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turbulent times. Mr Kobeh González outlined the work ICAO is doing in several areas, including the industry's number one priority, safety, and how it is striving to find solutions to critical problems such as the global aviation skills shortage, security and the environment. He stressed the need for industry co-operation to attendees, who included senior executives from airlines, airports, ANSPs, the pilots' union, aviation training firms and state government transport and industry departments. Mr Kobeh González, the permanent representative of Mexico on the ICAO Council, became President of the Council in August 2006.

## AOD PROGRAM LAUNCHED

CASA's new alcohol & other drugs program (AOD) was officially launched at the Regional Aviation Association of Australia conference at Coolumb in mid-September.

The AOD program requires the aviation sector to introduce minimum standards of drug and alcohol testing, education and support for safety-sensitive personnel. This group includes: flight crew, cabin crew (flight attendants), flight instructors, aircraft dispatchers, aircraft maintenance and repair personnel, aviation security personnel including security screeners, air traffic controllers, baggage handlers, ground rebuilders and all other personnel with airside access. The regulations

were signed by the Executive Council on 18 September 2008 and became effective on 23 September 2008.

To assist organisations in meeting the 23 March 2009 deadline to have a structured drug and alcohol management plan (DAMP) in place, a series of DAMP-building workshops will be held in late November and December 2008. See the calendar on p70 of this issue for dates, and/or contact [justin.dedomenico@casa.gov.au](mailto:justin.dedomenico@casa.gov.au) Registration essential.



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