

Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of Volume 6 of the *Journal of Aviation Technology and Engineering* (JATE). We are pleased to report that JATE continues to grow. This issue is the largest to date, containing a record number of published articles. Readership of JATE is on the rise as well, with full-text downloads now surpassing 72,000. Dedication to providing this open access online publication remains a priority, availing readers of timely industry research outcomes at no charge. To view the global impact of JATE, please visit our JATE real-time readership map.

JATE volume 6, issue 1 contains eight peer-reviewed articles. We begin with a research study on system-wide trust by a group of researchers from the Florida Institute of Technology–Melbourne. “What Are the Predictors of System-Wide Trust Loss in Transportation Automation?” builds on previous research and utilizes regression analysis with results to benefit the designers of complex automated systems.

Southern Illinois University’s Michael F. Robertson follows with “Safety Professional’s Perception of the Relationship Between Safety Management Systems and Safety Culture.” This qualitative study investigates the relationship between the components of SMS and their impact on safety culture at collegiate flight training institutions. Interview outcomes are presented along with recommendations for establishing a SMS.

Next, Yair Wiseman of Bar-Ilan University addresses the limitations of data collection on embedded memory devices and poses the question, “Can Flight Data Recorder Memory Be Stored on the Cloud?”

Diversity in aviation is explored by a team of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University researchers. Data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System was used to compare participation rates within the aviation industry. Promotion and recruitment are also addressed.

Next, a duo of researchers, also from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, presents their findings in “Designing Fixed-Base Operations Utilizing Systems Engineering Principles.” FBO design systems are described as well as the application of systems engineering principles to create a set of requirements and identify technical components necessary to maintain a sustainable FBO.

Douglas Boyd of the University of Texas at Houston and Peter Dittmer of Eastern New Mexico University follow with their study, “Accident Rates, Phase of Operations, and Injury Severity for Solo Students in Pursuit of Private Pilot Certification (1994–2013).” Data from the NTSB and FAA were analyzed using proportion tests, Poisson distribution, and Mann-Whitney tests. Findings emphasize the importance of landing speed control in flight instruction.

“Airline Pilot Supply in the US: Factors Influencing the Collegiate Pilot Pipeline” addresses the impact of the First Officer Qualification regulatory change on the career plans of collegiate aviation flight students. Student perceptions of the regional airline career path are examined. Results are presented by Rebecca Lutte of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Kent Lovelace of the University of North Dakota.

Finally, a team of seven researchers from a variety of institutions presents a second report in a series pertaining to their *Pilot Source Study 2015* research. This article addresses the performance of post-law (Public Law 111-216) new-hire regional pilots in initial training and operations, specifically with regard to four performance measures: non-completions, extra training, extra initial operating experience, and extra recurrent training.

We are continuously seeking professionals willing to share their expertise by serving as reviewers. Please contact us if you wish to apply. Additionally, if you would like to receive custom e-mail notices, enable the *Journal of Aviation Technology and Engineering* RSS feed, or submit an article for publication consideration, please visit <http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/jate/>.

On behalf of the JATE associate editors and members of the editorial board, we thank you for your readership.

Best regards,

John H. Mott, Executive Editor

Mary M. Fink, Managing Editor

Journal of Aviation Technology and Engineering