
NATA Ground Handling Safety Symposium Recap

Aviation ground handling professionals from around the U.S. came together at the NTSB Training Center in Ashburn, VA last week for NATA's 3rd annual Ground Handling Safety Symposium (GHSS).

The GHSS was developed by the NATA Safety Committee to promote safety at FBOs and other general aviation ground handling businesses/operations. The two-day event included facilitated discussions, expert-led sessions, and moderated panels on topics ranging from employee development to the future role of data sharing and analytics in ground handling safety.

Guest speakers Sheryl Clarke and Madeline Sullivan of Jet Linx led an informative and engaging session on "Creating a Safety Culture from the Ground Up" while Patrick Moylan, Senior Advisor at FBO Partners provided attendees with an excellent session on the business value of an effective Safety Management System.

The symposium featured two case studies of ground handling incidents, educating attendees on their root causes and resulting mitigations.

"As a part 135 operator, it's crucial for us to understand the environment our assets and team work in. This symposium has been a great opportunity to learn, collaborate, and understand perspective," said attendee and guest speaker Madeline Sullivan.

One of the symposium's highlights was the CEO Safety Panel: *Managing Up to the "C-suite"* in which NATA's President Gary Dempsey, former Landmark Aviation CEO Ted Hamilton, and Patrick Moylan fielded questions from attendees on how to "speak the language" of their executive leadership when it comes to managing safety at their organization.

Don Baldwin, President of Baldwin Aviation and Jeff Mittleman, Founder of Mittleman Aviation Solutions led a discussion that explored the challenges and benefits of establishing an industry-wide safety data collection and analysis program. Attendees explored issues including data and identity security, program structure, and methods for deriving value from data.

NATA would like to thank all of the guest speakers, panelists, and attendees of this year's Ground Handling Safety Symposium. For more information on upcoming NATA events click [here](#).