

D2D Safety Surveys



Rhian Williams
Senior Human Factors Specialist Safety

NATS

Overview

- ➔ Where did D2D come from?
- ➔ How do we observe?
- ➔ What are the benefits of D2D?
- ➔ What do the results look like?
- ➔ Recent Developments

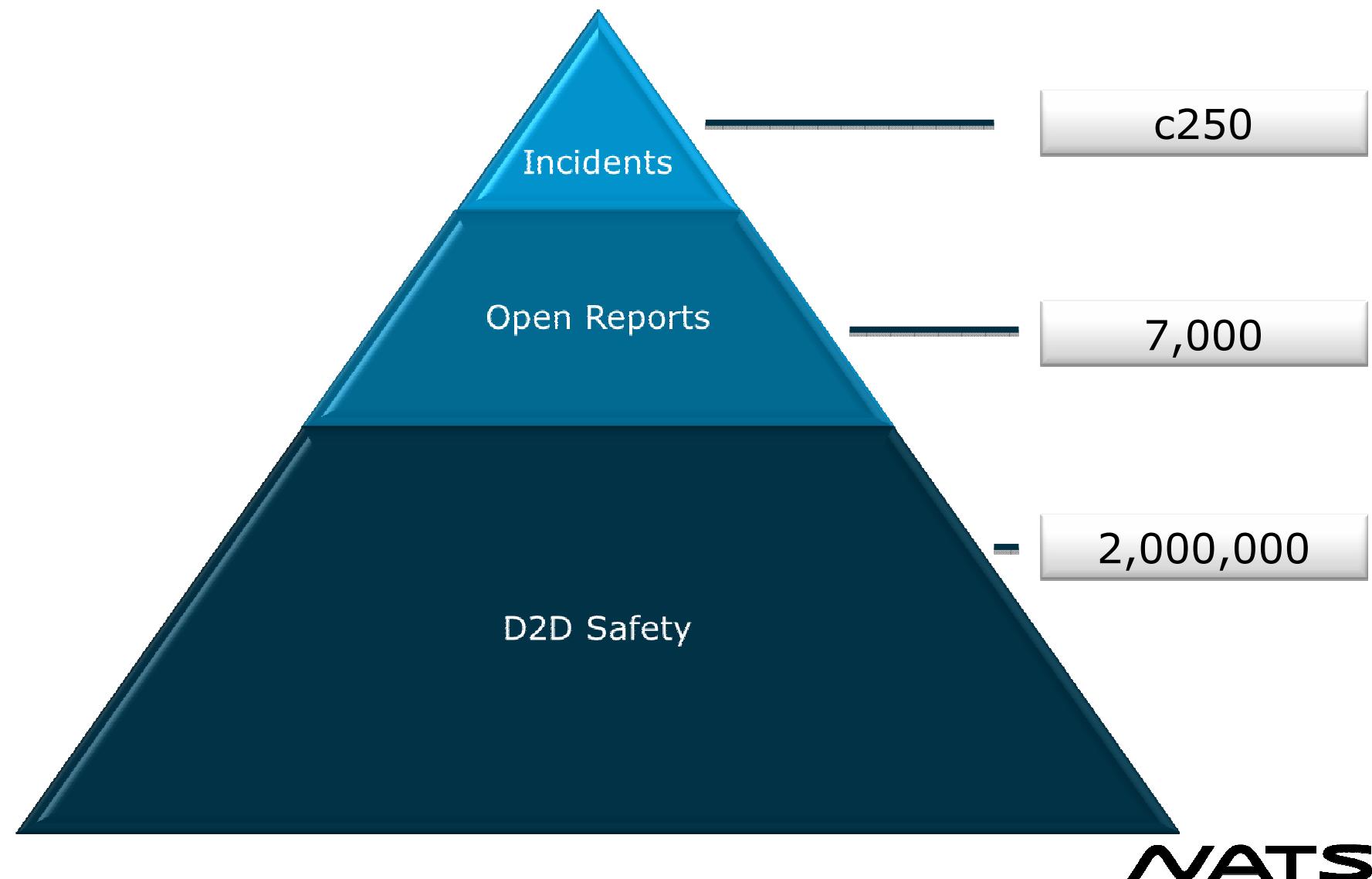
Where Did D2D Come From?

D2D Safety Surveys



NATS

D2D Safety Surveys





D2D Background

◆ What is D2D?

- ◆ Observing - NOT assessing
- ◆ It is about the technique, NOT the person being observed
- ◆ Looking for good techniques only, NOT for any negative behaviours
- ◆ Seeking data on how often good techniques are used
- ◆ Improving ATCO safety through understanding the use of good techniques

Background: Identify What's Important

- NATS top six causal factors from SSE1-4s
- Contextual factors associated with them (next slide)

Causal Factor	Example
Not see	infringing aircraft on radar, aircraft on the runway, or strips in the strip bay
Incorrect decision/plan	assumptions relating to aircraft speed, accounting for the wind or making a plan entirely dependent on aircraft performance
Transmitting incorrect information	transmitting the wrong information, including the wrong flight level, callsign or frequency
Mis-perceive information	cleared flight level of aircraft based on assumptions
Mis-hear	incorrect readback of flight level by the pilot
Misjudge	climbing/descending and crossing aircraft tracks, or departure gaps

Background: Identify What's Important

- Contextual information

Contextual Factor	Example
Training issues	monitoring of trainee
Hand-over issues	rushed or incomplete information
Interruptions	particularly from phone calls, or colleague questions
Workload	competing tasks, and restricting search for information
Airspace complexity	crossing tracks

What do we observe?

- ◆ 5 key techniques to mitigate the top causal factors:
 - ◆ Visual Scanning
 - ◆ Active Listening
 - ◆ Defensive Controlling
 - ◆ WAYSRAYL (Write As You Speak Read As You Listen)
 - ◆ Strip Management

A series of positive safety behaviours are observed for each technique with their frequency noted (Always , Sometimes , Never , N/A) and contextual comments.

How Do We Observe?

Observations

- ➔ Observations are not about the person
 - ➔ They are not judgemental
 - ➔ They do not question competency
 - ➔ They do not criticise individual skills, techniques
 - ➔ They do not score individuals
- Observers are taught how to carry out objective observations
- Trained observers carry out observations looking for the GOOD techniques – identified by ATCOs - that are used EVERY DAY.
- Observe the sector in operation and take notes on how often the technique was observed happening.
- Comments are added to provide context
- Results sent to central team for analysis and reports

What are the Benefits of D2D?



Benefit

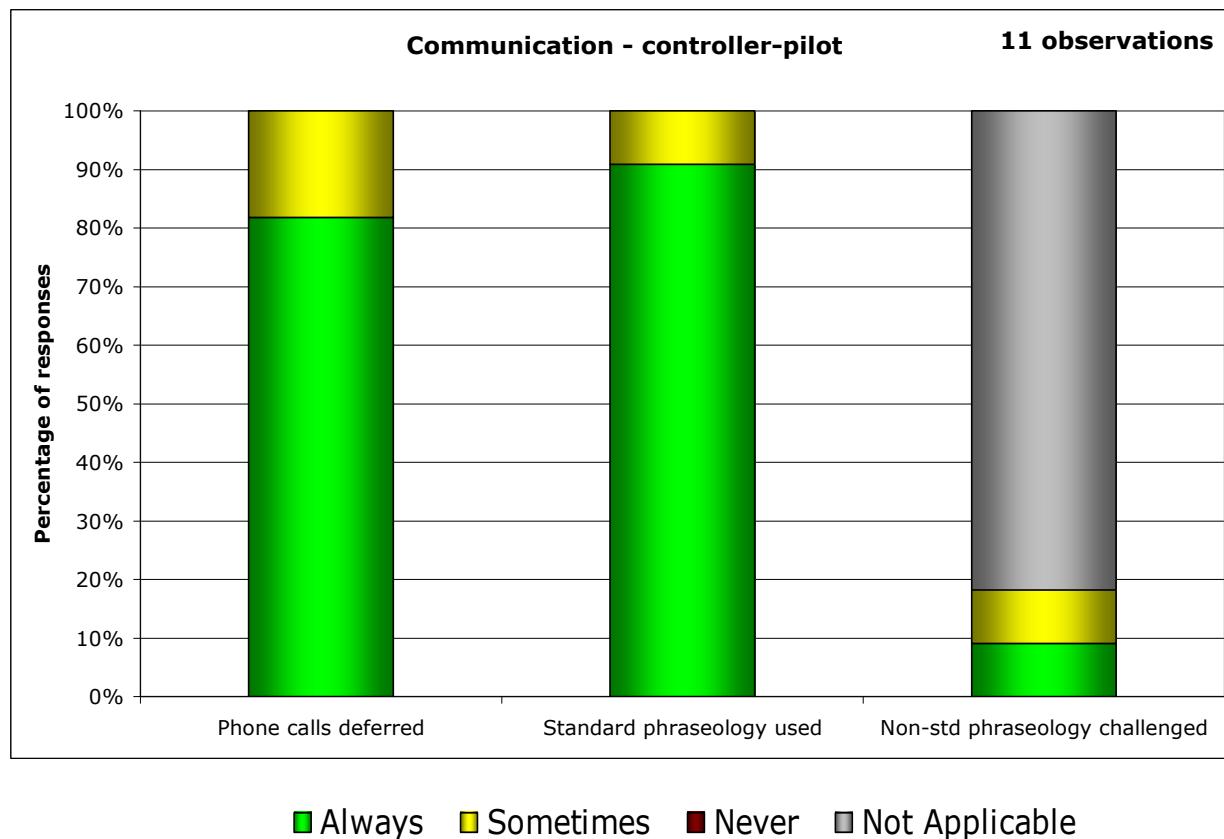
What does D2D give us that other SMS procedures don't?

- ➔ Investigations can only provide a historic picture of what's already gone wrong
- ➔ Competence monitoring is artificial – people don't control 'naturally'
- ➔ Safety audits give a historical statistical account of the safety picture
- ➔ D2D is a forward-looking predictive indicator which is gathered 'live' as it happens. People behave much more naturally when D2D is taking place
- ➔ We have a leading indicator of safety
- ➔ It provides the operation with a picture of risk BEFORE any incident takes place

What do the results look like?

Example Results

Example Results Controller- Pilot Communication



Example Comments

Phone calls are deferred...

“asked to say again after coordination on the phone”
“Manchester planner kept on communicating his coordination”

Standard phraseology...

“one non-standard phrase was used with regards to crossing a position at a certain level”

Non standard phraseology....

“on one occasion, pilot used ‘#### in the box’ rather than ‘squawk ####’”

What has Happened as a result?

» **Prestwick**

» **Visual scanning:**

- » “Watch out for the gorilla” campaign
- » Visual scanning experiments
- » Bespoke Visual Scanning observations

» **Active listening**

- » Quiz for operational staff

» **Defensive controlling**

- » Guides produced (ScACC)
- » Simulations run (MACC)
- » Avoiding Action phraseology as part of TRUCE (MACC)

» **OJT**

- » Poster campaign
- » Bespoke OJTI observations

» **Supervisors**

Recent Developments

Recent developments

- ◆ The observations have been tailored at units to capture additional relevant information.
- ◆ The programme has now been extended to capture information on a variety of different aspects of the operation, including:
 - ◆ On the Job Training
 - ◆ Communication within and beyond the ops room
 - ◆ Co-ordination between civil and military operations
 - ◆ Interfaces between adjacent units
 - ◆ Team-working
 - ◆ Sector specific controlling techniques
 - ◆ Flight deck observations

Questions?

Contact: Rhian.Williams@nats.co.uk

