

SM ICG Industry Day 2025

Halifax, Canada

Speaker Biographies



March 18, 2025

**Serkan Simitcioglu,
Head, IOSA (IATA
Operational Safety
Audit)**

Presentation:

**The IATA Safety
Management
Framework, how the
IATA Safety Issue Hub
and Risk-based IOSA
form the continuous
improvement cycle**



Serkan Simitcioglu is responsible for the operation and management of the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) program.

His role includes, among others, the IOSA registration of over 400 registered airlines worldwide, the governance of the IOSA Standards, regulatory and industry liaison, recruitment and training of auditors, as well as the development and operation of the IATA Standard Safety Assessment (ISSA) Program. Recently, the IOSA Program has transitioned to a risk-based approach.

Prior to joining IATA, Serkan worked in Germany where he has gained airline and ground operations and management experience in different firms. Following his time in Germany, Serkan joined IATA in Montreal, where he has been holding several positions involving standards management, quality and audit.

Serkan is holding a Bachelor of Arts in Aviation Management from the International University of Applied Sciences Bad Honnef/Bonn, Germany and an Executive Master of Business Administration from McGill University and HEC Montreal, Canada.

**David White,
Executive Vice
President,
Aviation of
Exchange Income
Corporation**

Presentation:

**Exchange Income
Corporation – Embracing
Non-Linear Progress
Towards Safety
Improvement**



Mr. White (age 62) is responsible for safety and operations within the Exchange Income Corporation's (EIC) Aerospace & Aviation segment. Mr. White joined EIC in July 2016 as Vice-President, Aviation, Safety and Integration and transitioned into his current role in the first quarter of 2018.

Prior to joining the Corporation, Mr. White had over 30 years in the aviation industry, with the last 15 years with Transport Canada. While at Transport Canada Mr. White held various senior executive positions with regional and national responsibilities including Associate Director of Operations, Acting Director of Standards, Acting Regional Director Civil Aviation in addition to various safety management and operational roles. He has significant experience with northern and remote operations.

Mr. White has a Masters of Arts in Leadership, Certifications in Aviation, Safety Management, Quality Systems and has held an Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's license for over 25 years. He has focused on safe and effective operations throughout his multifaceted career as an aviation professional.

Jodi Diamant,
Chief Engineer
Airworthiness &
Certification,
Pratt & Whitney
Canada

Presentation:

**SMS Journey of Design
and Manufacturing
Organizations**



Ms. Diamant has over 30 years of experience in the design and certification of aeronautical products, specializing in type certification requirements and processes, design organization authorization / delegation models. She is a passionate advocate for safety management systems in the aviation design and manufacturing sector.

She was introduced to SMS while at Transport Canada, when SMS was being established in the regulatory framework. Following 18 years in the Aircraft Certification Branch of Transport Canada with roles in Engineering, Delegations, Regulatory Standards [certification process and bilaterals], Ms. Diamant joined Pratt & Whitney Canada in 2006 and is responsible for P&WC product certification and delegation processes, regulatory compliance and SMS lead.

As an internationally recognized expert in these areas, Ms. Diamant is the current Chair of the AIAC Civil Aviation Committee and was invited to testify as an Industry Expert Witness on the Aircraft Certification Process in Canada at the TRAN Committee following the Lion Air Flight 610 and Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 accidents. She is the ICCAIA observer for Canada on the ICAO Safety Management Panel [SMP], and is a member of several international committees and industry associations, including an active role in the development of the International Industry Standard SM-0001 [SMS for Design, Manufacturing & Maintenance Organizations].

Ms. Diamant holds a BAsC and MASc in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Toronto, Canada.

Dennis Hogan,
Chief Executive
Officer, St. John's
International
Airport

Presentation:

**On the Eastern Edge of
North America – The
Evolution of YYT's Safety
Management System**



Dennis Hogan is the Chief Executive Officer of the St. John's International Airport Authority. With more than 20 years of executive leadership experience in industry and government, Dennis leads the Airport Authority team in safely connecting people, moving goods, and creating economic prosperity in the St. John's region and beyond.

Prior to his current appointment, Dennis was CEO of WorkplaceNL, where he led a comprehensive business modernization initiative designed to transform the organization's deployment of people, processes, and technology.

Dennis also served in several executive leadership roles with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, including Assistant Deputy Minister, Workforce Development and Immigration; Assistant Deputy Minister, Labour Market Recruitment – Major Projects; Assistant Secretary to Cabinet, Economic Policy; Assistant Deputy Minister, Innovation, Research and Technology; and Chief Innovation Officer. Earlier in his career, he was the inaugural Executive Director of Oceans Advance and founding CEO of the Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Safety Association.

In addition to the Standards Council of Canada, Dennis currently serves on the boards of Airports Council International – North America, the Atlantic Canada Airports Association, Destination St. John's, and the advisory board of the Faculty of Administration, Memorial University.

Dennis holds a Bachelor of Arts (Economics and Business) from Memorial University and a Master of Business Administration from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where he was a Sloan Fellow. While attending MIT, he completed advanced studies in leadership, strategy, and communications as a graduate cross-registrant at Harvard Business School and the Kennedy School of Government. He is also a holder of the ICD.D designation with the Institute of Corporate Directors.

Andrew Larsen,
Head, International
Aviation Policy &
Engagement
Transport Canada
Civil Aviation and
2025 SM ICG Chair

Presentation:

**ICAO Regional
Aviation Safety Group
Pan-America (RASG –
PA)**



Transport
Canada

Transports
Canada



For the past year, Andrew Larsen has served as the Head, International Aviation Policy & Engagement in Transport Canada Civil Aviation (TCCA) where he collaborates with counterpart civil aviation authorities, aviation industry associations, and international organizations on a wide range of policy and technical aviation initiatives. Prior to this new role, Andrew held a variety of positions over the last number of years in the Standards Branch of TCCA, including as the Associate Director, Standards. He has diverse knowledge of the program through his wide range of previous responsibilities, including: TCCA's surveillance program and national oversight office, safety management systems, Canada's State Safety Program, leading technical assistance initiatives, and safety promotion and education activities.

Andrew is Canada's nominated member on the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) Safety Management Panel while also representing Canada and serving as the State Co-Chair of the Regional Aviation Safety Group, Pan-America. Andrew was previously the National Continuous Monitoring Coordinator for Canada responsible for engagement with ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program (USOAP) and he currently serves as the TCCA member on the Steering Committee of the Safety Management International Collaboration Group.

Andrew has nearly fifteen years of aviation experience in a variety of roles, including previous work as a Health and Safety Inspector for the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand and as the Occupational Health and Safety Officer for Porter Airlines.

Andrew holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences in International Development and Globalization from the University of Ottawa, in Canada, and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Safety and Accident Investigation (Air Transport) from Cranfield University, in the United Kingdom.