

Question: How has management of the FAA's human factors research program changed in response to recommendations from the R, E&D Advisory Committee and GAO?

Answer:

Following the recommendations of the R,E&D Advisory Committee and GAO, the FAA designated the Office of the Chief Scientist & Technical Advisor for Human Factors as the agency's center for coordination of Human Factors activities. The Chief Scientist is developing the agency's human factors infrastructure, process, and expertise to support system development, acquisition, and operations consistent with the recommendations of the R, E&D Advisory Committee and GAO.

Background for Witness Information Only:

In addition to placing human factors staff directly into major acquisition programs, initiating intra-agency human factors training (course under development), and continuing to direct and focus human factors research, the Chief Scientist has established a internet based Human Factors Program Management System (HFPMS). This information system provides human factors R&D program tracking as well as identification of the agency's funded and unfunded human factors support requirements. This information system will also allow customers of human factor services to identify HF specialists for quicker service (an "FAA HF corporate yellow pages"). Additionally, the system will house the Human Factors Electronic Resource Library.