Implementing a Safety Management System In A Small Scale Flight Test Operation

...and how to keep it alive and well

Abstract
The recent European legislation demands the implementation of a safety management system for most flight operations.

The theories of safety management and the according systems are widely available. However, even though the term and associated research and development concerned with the issue exist since the late 1980’s, SMS is still a niche discipline and not known to the wider public.

The EU’s legislation forces the implementation of a SMS on flight ops and also flight test ops.

The brief presentation will show how SMS can be implemented even for small flight test ops and focuses on the challenges that arise from the type of operation.

It also tries to point out how not only to set-up the SMS, but which means are necessary to get it running. Additionally the presentation will try to point out some challenges of how to keep the system going.

The presentation is meant to be a starting point for a discussion and is limited to 15 minutes.

DLR Flight Experiments
The German Aerospace Center’s Flight Experiments

The DLR flight facilities in Braunschweig and Oberpfaffenhofen are unique in the German research environment and are operated on a scientific scale. These facilities provide scientific service for research programs by DLR, as well as for other national institutions, agencies and companies. (DLR, 2018)

The DLR Flight Research Facility in Oberpfaffenhofen operates four research aircraft: a Gulfstream G550, a Dassault Falcon 20-E5, a Dornier Do228-212 and a Cessna C208B Grand Caravan. These aircraft are dedicated research platforms with most of the flights in the fields of atmospheric research or remote sensing. Oberpfaffenhofen operates its own Flight Test Group, providing flight test services for certification flight testing as well as development flight tests.

Bibliography
DLR. (2018, 02 10). www.DLR.de