Airline Industry Turbulence Safety Initiatives

NCAR Turbulence Mitigation Workshop IV Nathan Polderman

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Industry Turbulence Safety Action Team (ITSAT)



- Built on success of InfoShare forums
 - collectively address systemic safety risks via open sharing in a non-competitive, protected environment
- [Nov 6, 2019]: kickoff meeting; formed notional sub-groups
- [April-May 2020]: re-focus in wake of COVID; data standardization effort survives
- [Sept 2020]: aligned on first initiative: research study on normalization of in situ turbulence detection methodologies
- [Mar 2, 2021]: submitted formal research proposal to FAA Weather Needs Portal:
 "Operational assimilation of disparate automated in situ turbulence sensing applications"



Normalization of intensity scales will be a challenge

Vertical Wind-Based Eddy Dissipation Rate (EDR) [NOAA, Boeing; A/C weight class]





What is the "ideal state"?

- Maximize the number of sensors contributing to real-time, standardized measure of atmospheric state
- Improve quality and quantity of observations used to initialize and validate numerical weather forecast models
- Calibrate industry SOPs and end users to objective observation set
- Establish scalable standards to handle future new entrants (e.g., ADS-B)
 > foundation for RTCA DO-370 v2.0?



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Washington, DC 20594

• Determine how to harmonize current and future eddy dissipation rate algorithm performance in operational environments and publish the results of this determination. (A-21-27) (See section 4.1.2.)



Research methodology

- Live flying testbed? Simulated environment? Both?
- How many different aircraft types or sub-fleets?
- What measurement or reporting rate/interval to use?
- Incorporate QAR / DFDR data?
- Minimum sample size needed?
- Consider regional coverage, time of day, seasons, altitudes?



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