
AAPA calls 2012 a good year for aviation safety

By **Maryann Simson** on January, 9 2013 | Airline & Terminal News



According to the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) 2012 was one of the safest years in aviation history.

Worldwide, there were just four major accidents involving large western-built commercial airline jets in 2012, resulting in a total of 304 fatalities. This, says the AAPA, represented a loss rate of one major accident for every seven million flights. Over the past five years, the industry has more than halved the average loss rate, as a result of continuous improvements in safety performance.

The Association was also pleased to report that Asia Pacific carriers have maintained their excellent safety performance record, which is fully comparable to that of the leading European and North American airlines. AAPA carriers recorded only one major accident during the past five years, the loss of a Boeing 747 freighter with two crew fatalities in 2011.

"Passengers can rest assured that flying is safe, and getting even safer, thanks to the efforts and commitment of a wide range of aviation industry stakeholders in sharing of safety data and the development of best safety management practices," said Andrew Herdman, Director General of the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines. "AAPA is fully supportive of the latest ICAO safety initiatives, including those addressing runway safety, approach and landing procedures, wildlife hazard management, and wider deployment of safety management systems."

Herdman also noted that In addition to large commercial jet operations, attention also needs to be focused on turboprop aircraft operations, which often take place in more challenging operating environments.

"We need firm regulation to ensure that all carriers operate to the highest international standards, including wider deployment of automated terrain awareness warning systems for all commercial operations," he said. "AAPA's safety objective is to deliver further positive improvements in safety performance, recognising that this can only be achieved through the joint efforts of the region's operators, working closely with regulators and other involved stakeholders."