



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIRWORTHINESS

NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION

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WHITTLE SAFETY AWARD PRESENTED TO SHELL AIRCRAFT

Cliff Edwards, Senior Advisor – Air Safety for Shell Aircraft International, was today presented with this year’s Whittle Safety Award by Ron Yates on behalf of the International Federation of Airworthiness, at a ceremony held during the International Air Safety Seminar in Shanghai, China.

The award, which honours the inventor of the jet engine, Sir Frank Whittle, is the highest and most prestigious award that the Federation can confer in recognition of the advancement of aircraft safety.

The award citation reads:

“In recognition of his personal contribution to the evolution, development and promotion of structured safety management systems throughout the aerospace industry”

Beginning his career as a technician with the Royal Air Force, Cliff then served in engineering and management positions in numerous worldwide locations for Bristow Helicopters.



He joined Shell in 1983 as engineering manager of helicopter operations in Brunei, and has since served Shell in various capacities, culminating in that of Senior Advisor, Air Safety. Having led Shell’s efforts to develop a safety management system, he then championed the concept within the U.K. aviation industry, via the U.K. Civil Aviation Authority, UK-SMS-Combined Action Group and the Royal Aeronautical Society’s Human Factors Working Group.

A significant step forward in achieving a workable SMS tool was the development of the generic aviation hazard model that can be adapted for both fixed wing and helicopter operations, this Cliff developed and facilitated with a team of professional pilots and engineers from airlines and operators who were members of the UK Flight Safety Committee and colleagues from SAI.

Subsequently, Cliff has given freely of his time to share the safety management system concept throughout the aviation industry, by assisting aircraft operators to develop their SMS, giving lectures wherever requested and by leading workshops on this subject, such as those provided on behalf of the International Federation of Airworthiness. This has given his safety message a truly global reach.

On receiving the award, Cliff Edwards said:

“I am very honoured to receive the Sir Frank Whittle Safety Award, and believe it reflects on Shell Aircraft’s commitment to driving aviation safety forward, the entire team supported me in the development of this important safety initiative.

The International Federation of Airworthiness (IFA) is a non profit/non governmental organisation dedicated to improving aviation safety by increasing international communication, awareness and co-operation on all aspects of airworthiness and particularly that of continuing airworthiness.

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