

# The Dispatch

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## 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

### See the Agenda

The 2023 Annual Conference is shaping into familiar form: four days of executive branch briefings, grassroots legislative advocacy and discussions focused on international regulatory compliance. Invited speakers include senior government officials, representatives of aviation safety agencies from four continents and experienced industry colleagues.

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## ARSA IN THE NEWS

## **Working Group Calls For Unified Repair Station Guidance**

Unifying regulatory guidance into a single volume would benefit both repair stations and FAA personnel that oversee them while ensuring guidance is both complete and aligns with agency rules, an industry working group concluded.

## **INDUSTRY NEWS**

### **Congress OKs Voluntary Age Limit for Large 91K, 135**

#### **Ops**

Under a recently passed measure, Part 91K and 135 operators now have the option of establishing a 70-year-old age ceiling for pilots.

### **Biden's FAA Nominee Gains Partisan Support Despite Under-Qualification**

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is stating he will push to confirm Phillip Washington, Joe Biden's pick for FAA Administrator.

### **NATA Seeks Comment Extension on SMS Proposal**

Published in the Federal Register on January 11, the much-anticipated proposal is open for comment through March 13.

### **5G Airworthiness Directive on the Books for February 2024**

Carriers will need to equip their aircraft with 5G C-Band tolerant altimeters by February 2024 according to Airworthiness Directive AD-2022-01379.

### **HAECO Xiamen Completes First A321-200PCF Conversion**

HAECO Xiamen has rolled out its first A321-200PCF freighter conversion, in cooperation with 321 Precision Conversions, which holds the supplemental type certificate for the converted type.

## **Boeing To Face Criminal Charges Related to Max Crashes**

A Texas federal judge has ruled that Boeing must appear in court on January 26 for arraignment on federal criminal charges related to the twin crashes of 737 Max jets that claimed the lives of 346 people.

## **Maker of Defective Rotor Pin Agrees to \$10M Settlement**

An investigation by Canada's Transportation Safety Board found that the pin was made from weaker steel than specified by the helicopter's OEM and that resulted in the "catastrophic failure of the main rotor assembly," according to Dallas aviation attorney Ladd Sanger, who served as co-counsel in the suit filed on behalf of the pilot's family.

### *Product Showcase*



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## **Economic Headwinds To Hit MRO Supply Chains**

MROs are keeping a close eye on the global economy and market opportunities in 2023 but will likely face cost challenges that will result in higher maintenance costs despite a general improvement in demand being anticipated.

## **Feeling Adventurous?**

Billed as the world's most remote aviation event, the Greenland Air Trophy pits two teams of pilots — one from Europe and one from the Americas — as they compete in STOL and precision landing competitions after flying across the Atlantic Ocean.

### *Product Showcase*

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## **WORKING FOR THE WORKFORCE**

### **New MRO Workforce Program Seeks To Revamp Contract Labor**

LAUNCH Technical Workforce Solutions, an aviation industry staffing provider that specializes in contract labor, has developed a new workforce pathway program aimed at solving the MRO industry's shortage of qualified technicians.

### **United Airlines Doubles Size of Houston Inflight Training Center**

At a cost of US\$32 million, the now 56,000 ft facility more than doubles the existing training premises and will enable the carrier to remain on track to hire 15,000 new staff, including 4,000 flight attendants, in 2023.

### **With Continuing Aviation Staff Shortages, Online Classes help Training Experts Quicker**

Unlike other training methods, online classes offer an open learning method that enables pilots and other aviation staff to acquire professional qualifications and certifications, the same way as those who attend aviation academies.

*Product Showcase*



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