



# **Improving Safety Through Collaboration**

## **The ASIAS Program**

# ASIAS Continuous Improvement in Aviation Safety



**Aviation Safety Information  
Analysis and Sharing (ASIAS)**

A collaborative government and industry initiative on data sharing and analysis to proactively discover safety concerns before accidents or incidents occur, leading to timely mitigation and prevention

# ASIAS is governed by formal principles

data used solely for  
**advancement of safety**

**voluntary submission**  
of safety-sensitive data

operator/OEM/MRO  
**data are de-identified**

**transparency** for how data are  
managed and utilized

procedures & policies based on  
**collaborative governance**

analyses **approved by** an  
**ASIAS Executive Board**



# General Aviation Stakeholders

Most up-to-date list can be found at  
<https://portal.asias.aero/>

## General Aviation and On-demand Part 135 Air Carriers (141)

711 Cody, Inc.	Flight Options	Priester Aviation
Abbott Laboratories	Gama Aviation Signature	Qualcomm, Inc.
ACI Jet	Giostyle LLC*	REVA
Aero Charter	Gulfstream Aerospace Flight Operations	RTFlight
Airshare	Hanover Foods Flight Ops	Sanford Health
Albertsons	International Jet Aviation Services	SC Aviation
Ameriflight	Jet Aviation	SC Johnson
BCH, LLC	Jet Edge International	SevenBar Aviation
Best Jets International	Jet Linx	Smithfield Foods Flight Department
Blue Ridge Jet	Johnson & Johnson	Solairus Aviation
Bombardier Flight Operations	JSX	Stryker Corporation
Boston Scientific	Key Lime Air	Talon Air
Cape Air	Kroger Aviation	Textron Aviation
The Coca-Cola Company	LECO Corporation	Tradewind Aviation
Cook Canyon Ranch Aviation	Luck Companies	Universal Flight Services
Costco Wholesale	Mayo Aviation	Valero Travel Services
Crew Aviation LLC	Milliken	Venture Jets
CTP Aviation	N724DB, LLC	Vulcan, Inc.
Eli Lilly	NetJets	Waltzing Matilda Aviation*
Embraer Executive Jets	Northeastern Aviation Corp.	White Cloud Charter
Enterprise Holdings	Northern Jet	Wing Aviation Charter Services
Executive Fliteways	OnFlight, Inc.	XOJET
Executive Jet Management*	Pacific Gas & Electric Co.	71 Additional Operators*
Fair Wind Air Charter		
Flexjet		

## Industry

ACSF—Air Charter Safety Foundation	Gulfstream Aerospace
AOPA—Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association	NBAA—National Business Aviation Association
Embraer	NJASAP—NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots
GAMA—General Aviation Manufacturers Association	Textron Aviation





## Flight Training

California Aeronautical University  
FlightSafety International, Inc.  
L3Harris  
Liberty University

University of North Dakota  
Southern Utah University  
8 Additional Stakeholders



## Additional Participants

## data

## key challenges

Working with **big data** requires a **methodical approach** that comprehensively addresses data management



**Data quality issues** require multiple processes to make narrative data meaningful & useable

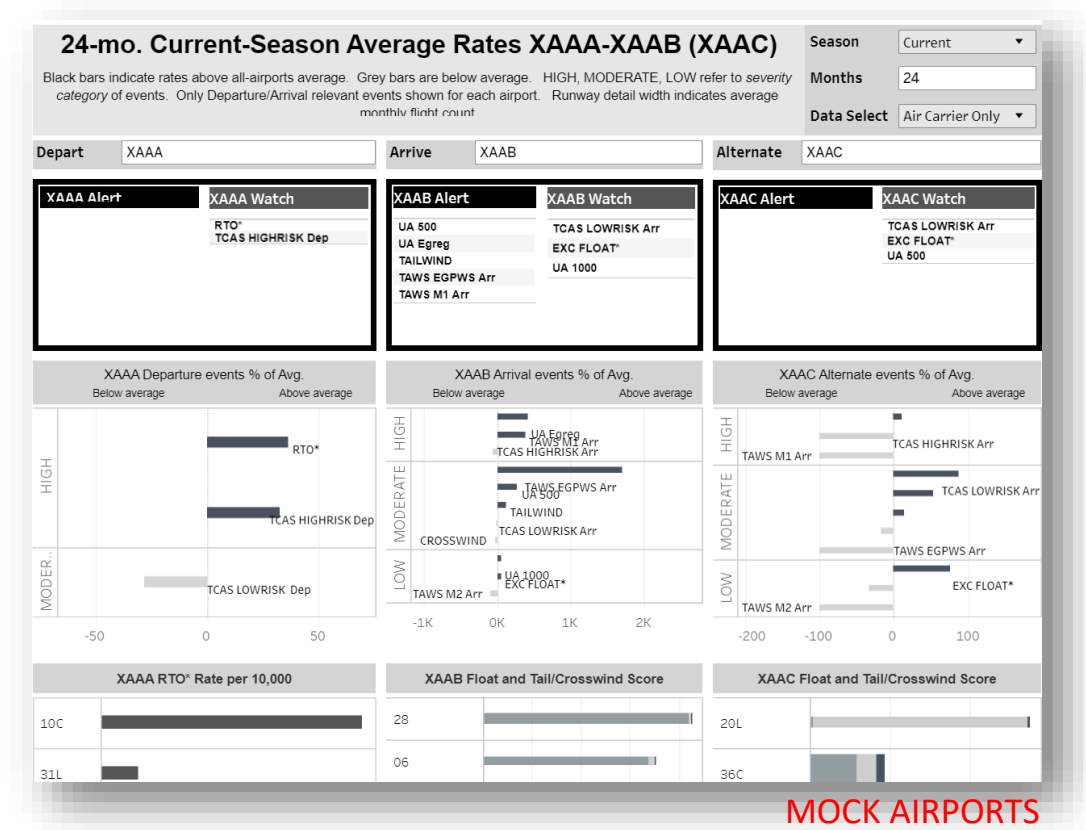


Wide **variety of data types and sources** requires complex processes for effective integration

**So how does ASIAS help me, the operator?**

# Insight into systemic safety issues that may affect my operation

- Data is aggregated & de-identified into meaningful safety information
- Metrics provide visibility into the most common occurrence categories (e.g. unstable approach, Loss of Control, runway excursion, mid air collision risk)
- Customizable dispatch tools provide insight into systemic risk at airports where we operate or may operate in the future
- How does my operation compare to what is being identified in the National Airspace System?





## TOPICS / CONTENT

### ASRS Reports: Recurring Themes

### Circling Approaches Study

### Potential Vulnerabilities

### ALAR Baseline

**Are systemic vulnerabilities  
in my operation?**

**Quarterly newsletters allow  
my operation to stay  
informed of vulnerabilities  
being discussed and studied  
in the ASIAS program.**

# Benefits for Business Aviation Operators

- **Insight into systemic safety issues that may affect your operation**
- **Access to National safety issue trends**
  - **Web Portal – 20+ dashboards**
- **Request & Access to Directed Studies**
- **Contribute to a national resource proactively analyzing systemic safety trends**
- **Benefit from systemic safety solutions through GA JSC Safety Enhancements**

**ASIAS makes improvements to the NAS which helps you as well.**

# How the results are used – proactively....

- ASIAs analyses are shared with government and industry safety teams (e.g. GA JSC, CAST)
  - The safety teams develop safety enhancements as needed to proactively mitigate risk within the National Airspace System.
- Change/design safer approach/departure procedures
- Improve procedures (e.g. pilot, air traffic control)
- Assess safety benefits of new technology
- Input to operator risk assessments

**Bottom line—reduce accidents and serious incidents**





## Stabilized Approach

Focusing on establishing and maintaining a stabilized approach is critical to preventing a loss of control. A stabilized approach is one in which the pilot maintains a constant angle glidepath towards a predetermined point on the landing runway, and depends on the maintenance of a constant final descent rate.

### Maintain a Stabilized Approach!

Have you heard these words before? Well, it's not just a buzz term in aviation safety. It's a critical lifesaving way to approach every flight. A pilot is flying a stabilized approach when he or she establishes and maintains a **constant angle glidepath** towards a predetermined point on the landing runway. Every runway is unique, but a commonly referenced optimum glidepath follows the "3:1" principle. The principle, also seen as a descent ratio, means that for every 3 nautical miles (nm) flown over the ground, the aircraft should descend 1,000 feet. This flightpath profile simulates a 3-degree glideslope.

### Data Discourse

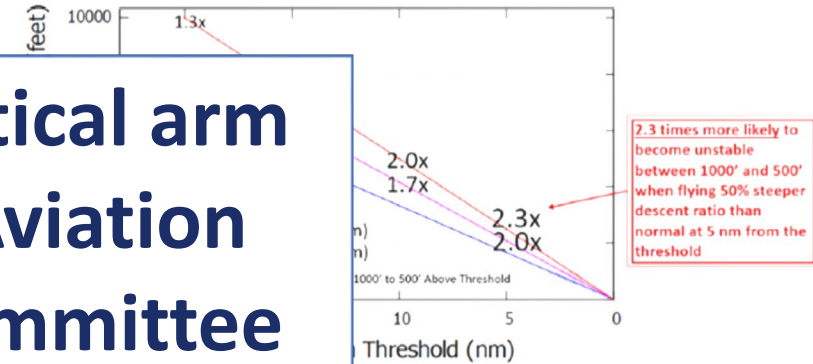
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ASIAs is an analytical arm  
to the General Aviation  
Joint Steering Committee  
([www.gajsc.org](http://www.gajsc.org)).

Informed by an ASIAs  
analysis on approach  
energy, this FAASTeam-  
produced GA JSC FlySafe  
fact sheet has over 175,000  
views.

## Steep Descent Ratios Lead to Unstable Approaches



a statistic is to GO AROUND if something's is not right at any time. If you choose to continue with an unstabilized approach, you risk landing too high, too fast, out of alignment with the runway centerline, or otherwise being unprepared for landing. These situations can result in loss of control of your aircraft or a runway excursion.

### Tips for Staying Stable:

- ♦ The further from the runway that you establish a "3:1" flight path profile, the greater your probability of successfully flying a stable approach. *NOTE: Every runway is unique and the published glidepath should be flown when available.*
- ♦ A method to estimate the appropriate descent rate in feet/minute to maintain a 3-degree glidepath is to multiply the groundspeed in knots by 5.
- ♦ When available, use a visual approach system such as a VASI or PAPI, or precision instrument approach to help maintain glidepath.
- ♦ Increase your knowledge on stabilized approaches. Some resources include the [GAJSC website](http://www.gajsc.org) and [Advisory Circular 91-79A](http://www.faa.gov/ads/91-79A).

**Remember—If not stabilized, GO AROUND!**





## Stabilized Approach and Go-around

Focusing on establishing and maintaining a stabilized approach and landing is a great way to avoid experiencing a loss of control. A stabilized approach is one in which the pilot establishes and maintains a constant angle glidepath towards a predetermined point on the landing runway. It is based on the pilot's judgment of certain visual clues, and depends on the maintenance of a constant final descent airspeed and configuration.

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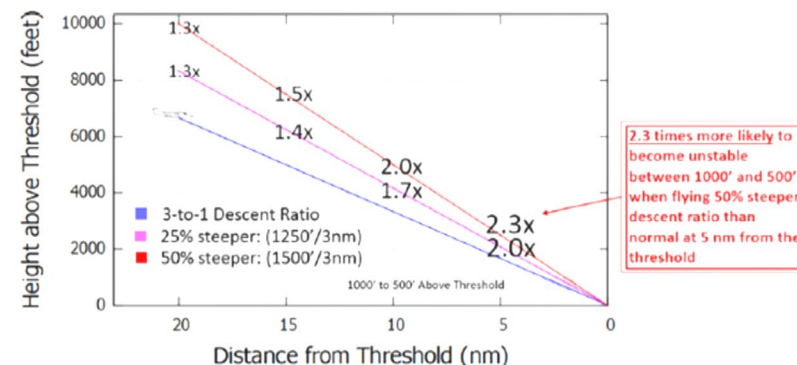
business aviation operators to the common "3:1" descent ratio. The study looked at this relationship from four distinct distances from the runway: 20, 15, 10 and 5 nm from touchdown. The study highlights the importance of being aware of how you manage the aircraft's total energy – kinetic (velocity) plus potential (altitude) – as you begin to fly the approach. Flights that were above the "3:1" descent ratio, and not stable, often had high rates of descent and high approach speeds.

A deeper look at the analysis shows that, even at 20 nm from touchdown, when a flight is above the optimum "3:1" descent ratio, the approach is more at risk of being unstable when closer to the runway (i.e., 500 feet to 1000 feet height above touchdown (HAT)).

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## Steep Descent Ratios Lead to Unstable Approaches



Moreover, the **probability of being unstable can DOUBLE as you increasingly fly above a "3:1" flight path profile.**

In addition, the data shows that at each of the distances (20, 15, 10, 5) when flying a "3:1" descent ratio, there is generally a 50/50 chance of being stable when reaching 500 to 1,000 HAT. Why 50/50? This is because your descent ratio is only one of many factors (such as aircraft configuration) that determine whether your approach will be stable or not.

Similarly, it's important to recognize high kinetic energy states close-in to airports or near a final approach fix. Similar to descent ratios, the data demonstrates an increased risk potential if speeds during final vectors or approaches are not managed appropriately.

**Bottom line:** Be mindful of how you are flying an approach before you commence the approach, not just when you are close to the runway. Remember, one of the most effective ways to prevent becoming

a statistic is to GO AROUND if something's is not right at any time. If you choose to continue with an unstabilized approach, you risk landing too high, too fast, out of alignment with the runway centerline, or otherwise being unprepared for landing. These situations can result in loss of control of your aircraft or a runway excursion.

### Tips for Staying Stable:

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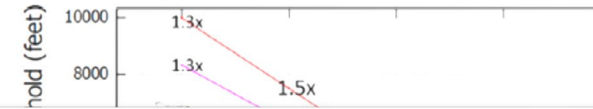
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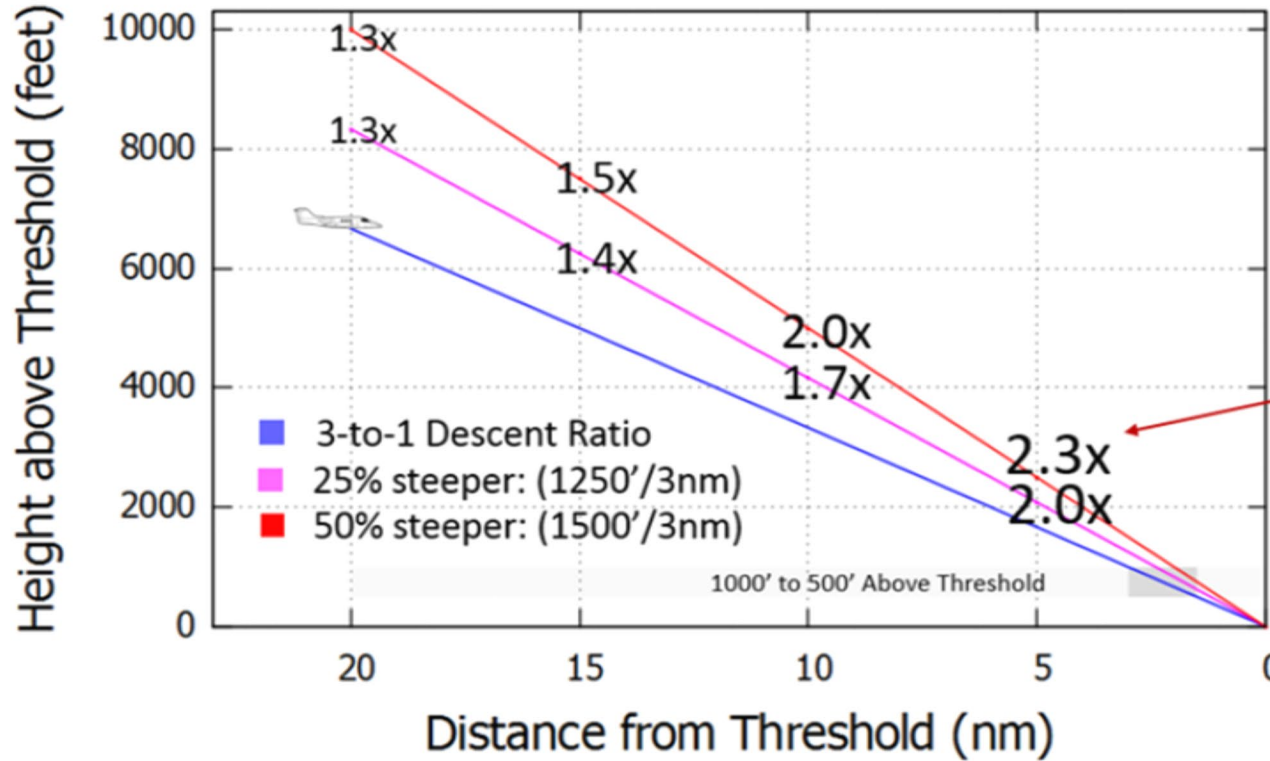
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**2.3 times more likely to become unstable between 1000' and 500' when flying 50% steeper descent ratio than normal at 5 nm from the threshold**

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# Leveraging Data from Across the Industry Provides Valuable Insights

**The safety insights gleaned from a multitude of data sources has allowed government and industry to make safety enhancements that directly affect operators, such as modifying approach procedures to reduce CFIT risk.**

Traffic  
Source: FAA National

Airport & Airspace Procedures  
Source: Air Traffic Control

Minimum Vectoring Altitudes  
Source: Air Traffic Control

Reports



# Leveraging Data from Across the Industry Provides Valuable Insights

**Traffic Tracks**  
Source: FAA National Offload Program

**Minimum Vectoring Altitudes**  
Source: Air Traffic Control

**Airport & Airspace Procedures**  
Source: Air Traffic Control

**Safety Event Focus**  
Source: Digital Flight Data, Safety Reports

**Terrain Source: National Elevation Data**

# From an actual Business Aviation operator:



## “How do we use the ASIAs program?” Three Methods

### Airport Drill Down

1. We use metrics, identify trends, and look for hotspots that are specific to the airport environment

### Bench Marking

1. Using the metrics on the portal, we are able to identify issue areas at the airports where we operate.
  - We’re currently exploring to see if there are potential problems areas at these airports or others.

### ASIAs GA IAT Member

1. Active member on the GA Issue Analysis Team by providing operational expertise to analyses
2. Help make decisions on studies and provide direct input on areas of improvement to the program
3. Even more direct insight into the vulnerabilities being discovered by the program

**I've been cleared direct, how do I sign up?**

# Path to Participation

- **Voluntary submission of one or more:**
  - Safety narrative reports (e.g., ASAP or internal safety reports)
  - FOQA Data
  - Other FDM Data (e.g. Avionics, GAARD)
- **Execute Cooperative Agreement with ASIAs or Private Operator Agreement with your SMS vendor**
  - No cost to participate (It's **FREE!**)
  - Can leave the program at any time for any reason

**OR**

- **Accept the *User Agreement* if submitting data via the NGAFID**
  - No cost to participate
  - Can leave the program at any time for any reason



# Thank You!

## GA IAT Tri-chairs

**Chad Brewer**

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Association**

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