


BEA
Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses
pour la sécurité de l'aviation civile

**Finding Nuggets:
Cooperation vital in efforts to recover buried data**

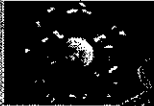
Christophe MENEZ
Jérôme PROJETTI




www.bea.aero

Introduction


- New technologies and more widespread GPS use
- New challenges for investigators
- Applying lessons learned to other onboard devices




1995




2004




1997



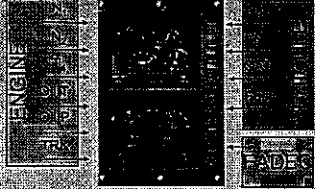
Vehicle Engine Multifunction Display (VEMD)




EC120 B cockpit




VEMD integration




GPS



VEMD data for investigation




Flight report page



Overlimit page

Maintenance pages



Limits of direct memory card readout

- Such direct readout at the manufacturer facilities has limits
- Decision to perform the physical examination of the systems, as well as the reading of the memory chips at the BEA
- A very challenging work due to the variety of systems

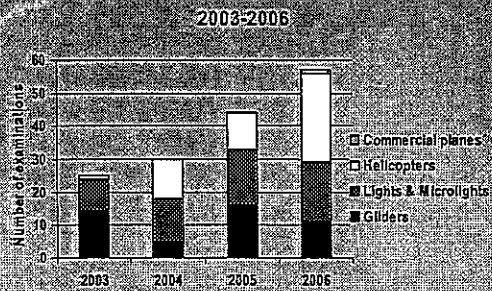
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A wide variety of data

GPS COMPUTERS	AVIONIC AND PANEL MOUNTED COMPUTERS	OTHER DATA STORAGE DEVICES
Portable GNSS 2D/3D flight track Waypoint databases Flight routes	ECU Failure & flight reports Overlimit warning	Cameras Photos & videos
Portable Logway FOD DFM/DFDAU Flight data recorder NGEN/AS/TA/RAI	EDS Screen & peripheral failures (VOR/radar/FAN/AC)	PDA Flight track Computer's files
Panel mount GNSS No flight log Flight data recorder Flight data recorder Flight data recorder	FA Cautions Warnings VHF Last selected frequency	ACAS Flight tracks

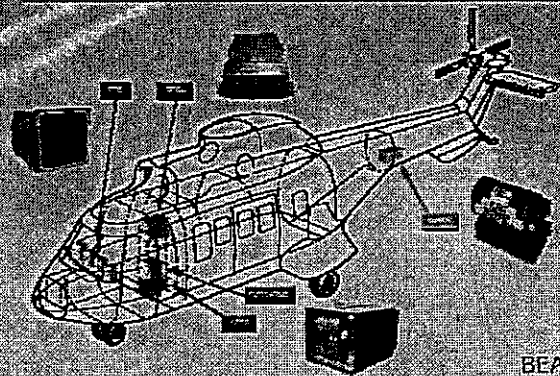
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Various fields of application



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AS332 L2 Super Puma Helicopter



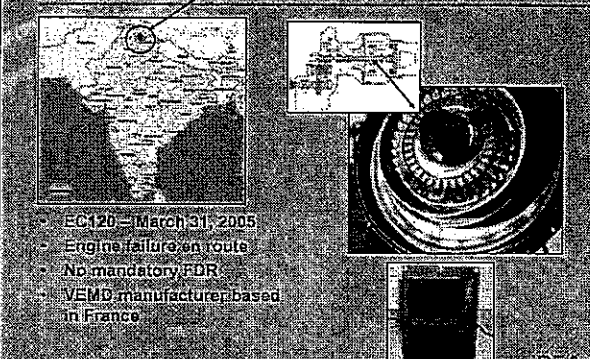
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General outline methodology

- To identify the potential source of information
- To remove the corresponding systems from the wreckage.
- To identify and extract the electronic cards and memories associated with data recording
- To read out the contents of the memory chips.
- To decode the raw data.
- To validate the results.

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Case 1 : EC120 accident






- EC120 – March 31, 2005
- Engine failure en route
- No mandatory EDR
- VEMO manufacturer based in France

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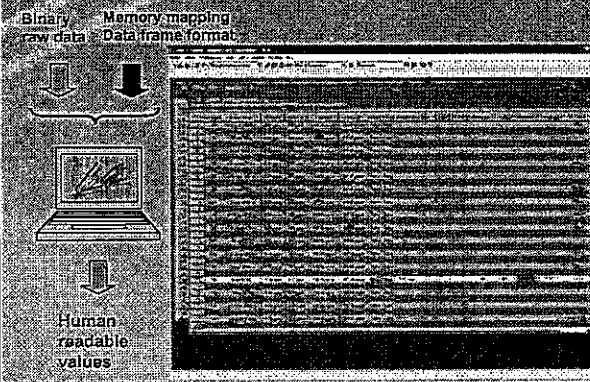
Case 1 : EC120 accident

- Electronic card extraction
- Cleaning and varnish removal
- Memory chip unsoldering
- Memory chip cleaning
- Memory chip inspection & electrical diagnostic
- Memory chips readout

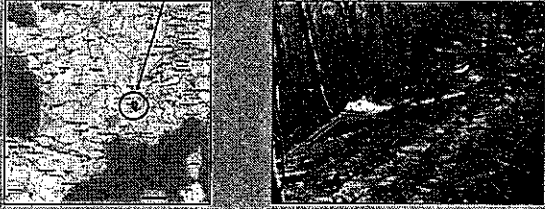
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Case 1 : EC120 accident



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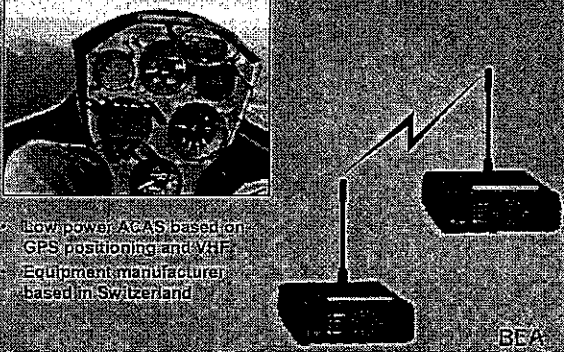
Case 2 - Glider accident



- ASW15 - March 22, 2007
- State of occurrence
- Radio transmitter unserviceable

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Case 2 - Glider accident

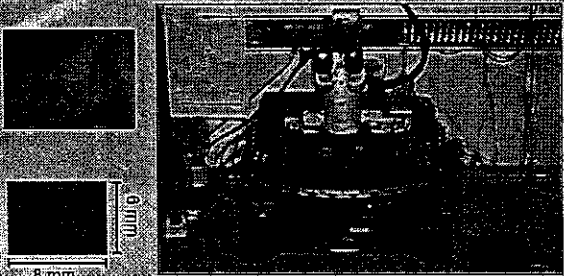


low power ACAS based on GPS positioning and VHF
Equipment manufacturer based in Switzerland

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Case 2 - Glider accident

How to find nuggets

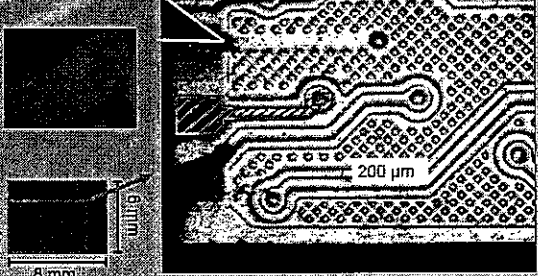


Flash memory chip readout with probes

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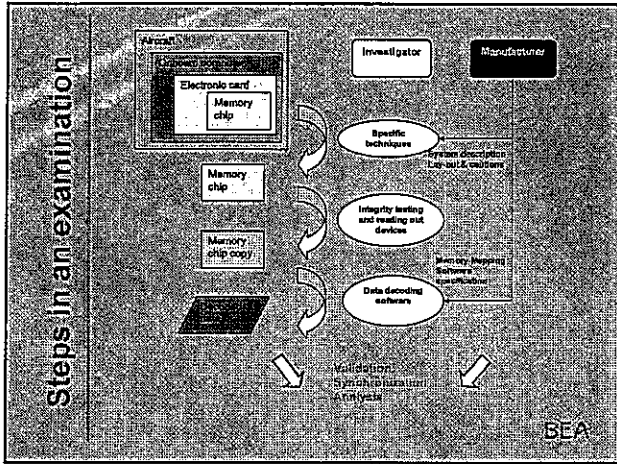
Case 2 - Glider accident

How to find nuggets



Flash memory chip readout with probes

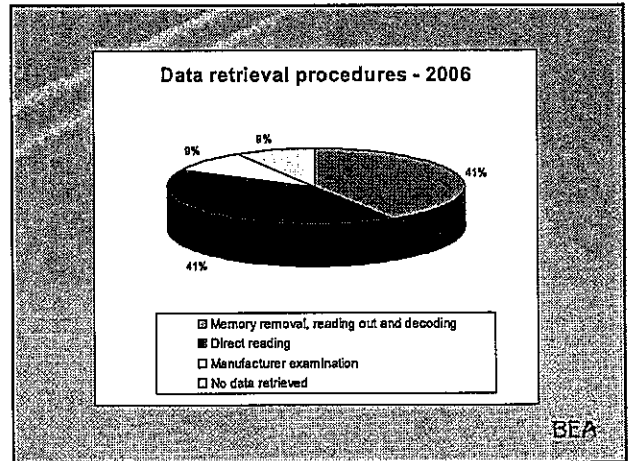
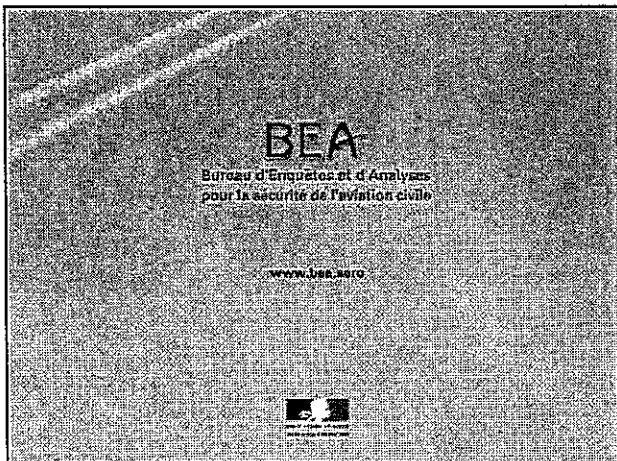
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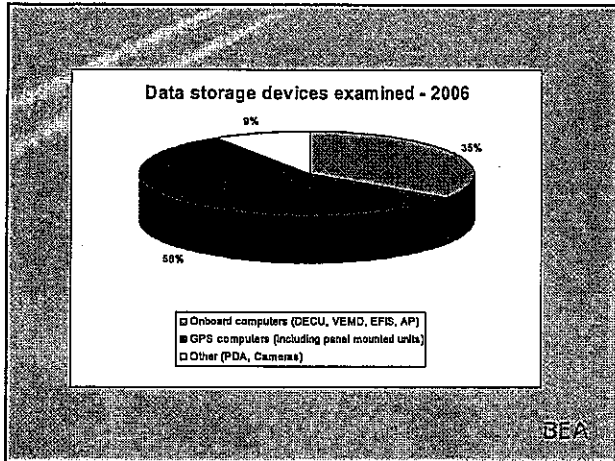


Conclusion

- Very challenging work
- No guarantee of successful readout
- Win-win cooperation
- Building cooperation from national working relationships to foreign counterparts could enhance the efficiency of investigations

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Type	Manufacturer/Model	Category	Quantity of items examined	Number of items in use	Year of manufacture
Onboard computers (DECU, VEMO, EFIS, AP)	Garmin 430	Onboard computer	1	1	2004
GPS computers (including panel mounted units)	Garmin 430	GPS computer	1	1	2004
Other (PDA, Camera)	Garmin 430	Other	1	1	2004
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CIDER Software Status Update and Demonstration

Presented by: Greg Smith
AIR Meeting 2007



National Transportation Safety Board

Overview

- Design Goals
- General Configuration
- Development Status
- Future Development
- Demonstration



Accident Investigator Recorder Meeting, Sept 4-6, 2007

National Transportation Safety Board

Design Goals

- Backup/Replacement For Existing System
- Workflow Management
- Configuration Control
 - Investigative Data
 - Configuration Data
- Portability
- Data Mining

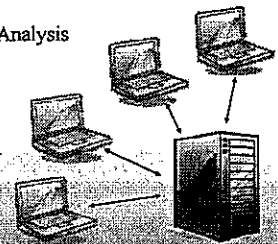


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Client - Server Configuration

- Client
 - Java Application
 - Stand Alone Processing & Analysis
- Server
 - MS SQL Server
 - Searchable Info
 - Parameter Definitions
 - Plot Definitions
 - WebDAV Server
 - Bulk Data



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Workflow Management

- 3 Levels of Data
 - Scratch – Working Level Initial Data
 - Production – Preliminary Data Released Within Investigation
 - Release – Final Data Released To The Public



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Configuration Control

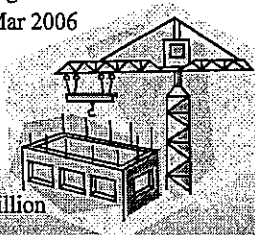
- Automated Email Creation When Promoting 
- Parameter Definitions Stored In SQL Database
- Plot Definitions Stored In SQL Database
- Template Files Stored On WebDAV Server 

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Development Status

- Started – Sep 2004
- First Stand-Alone Beta – Aug 2005
- First Client-Server Beta – Mar 2006
- Latest Beta – Aug 2007

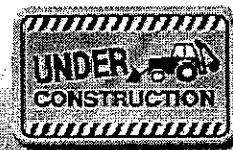
- Development Continuing Thru Feb 2008
- Spending To Date – \$2.3 Million



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Future Development

- Upgrading Permissions Handling
- Adding Tape Digitization
- Additional Enhancements



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Permissions Handling

- FDR Specialists Put Validated Parameters In A Production Level



- Other Users Retrieve Production Data Do Their Own Plotting & Analysis



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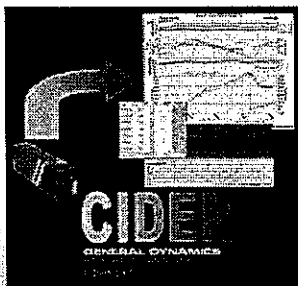
Tape Digitization

- Using Data Translation A/D Converter
- Cover Multiple Types Of Waveform Algorithms
- Should Work With Any Tape Deck



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DEMONSTRATION



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TSB

TSB Experience with Damaged Honeywell SSFDR and SSCVR



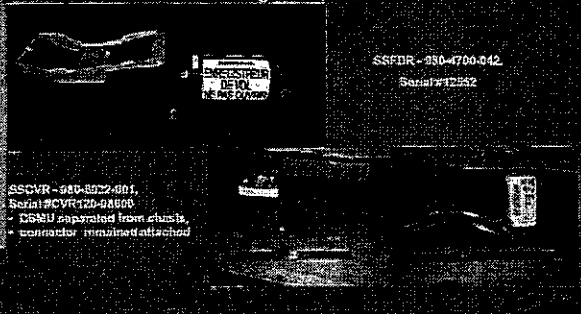
EST

AIR Meeting
4 - 5 September 2007
Cariberra

**GOL Airlines, 29 Sep 2006
Boeing 737-800, PR-GTD**

- Boeing 737-800, PR-GTD, operated by Gol Airlines of Brazil, and an Embraer Legacy 600 business jet, N600XL, owned and operated by Excelaire of Long Island NY, collided in flight over the Amazon Forrest approximately 100 miles southeast of the Cachimbo Air Base, Brazil.
- The Boeing 737 was destroyed by in-flight breakup and impact forces; all 154 occupants were fatally injured. The Legacy N600XL experienced damage to the left wing and left horizontal stabilizer, and performed an emergency landing at the Cachimbo Air Base.

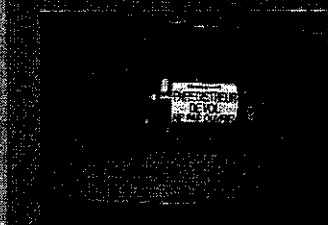
GOL Airlines, 29 Sep 2006
Boeing 737-800, PR-GTD



SSFDR - 950-4700-042
Serial#12552

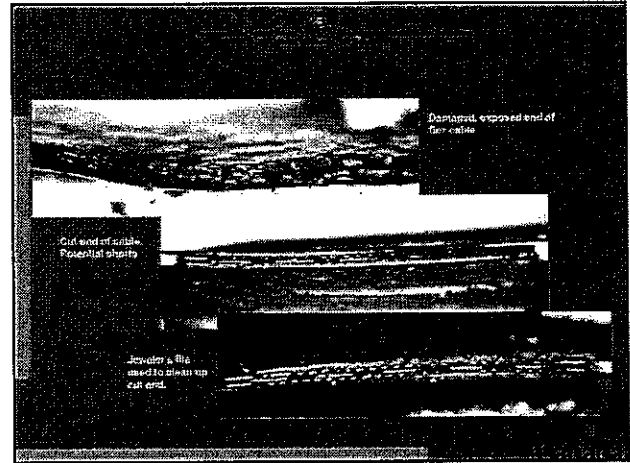
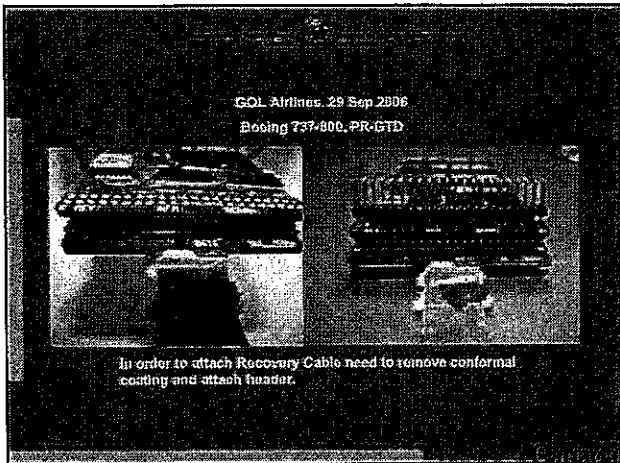
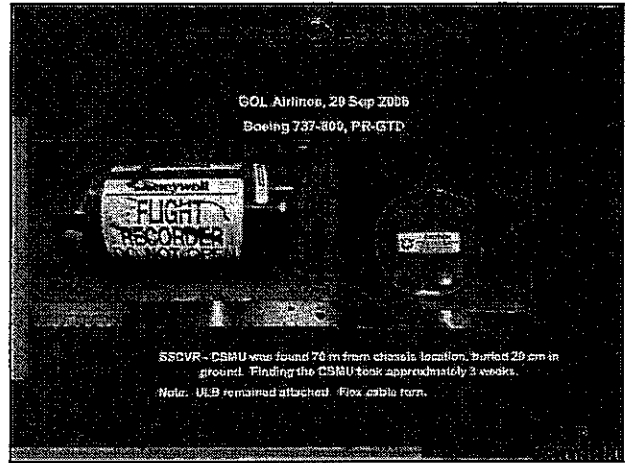
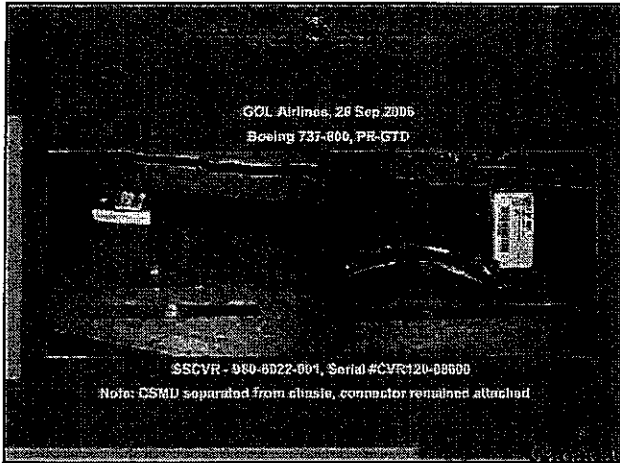
SSCVR - 980-8522-001
Serial#CVR120-08600
• CSMU separated from chassis, connector minimized attached

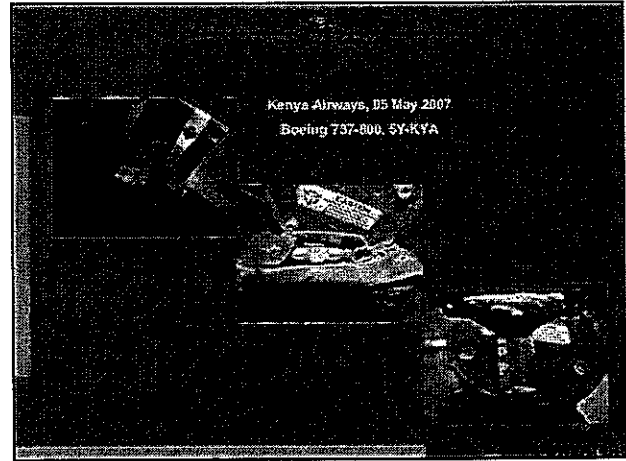
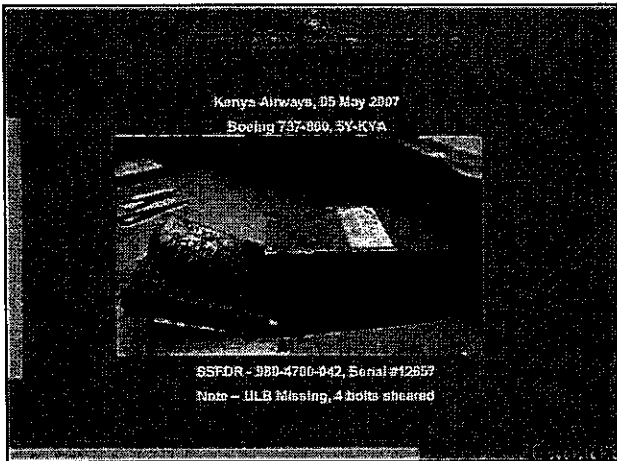
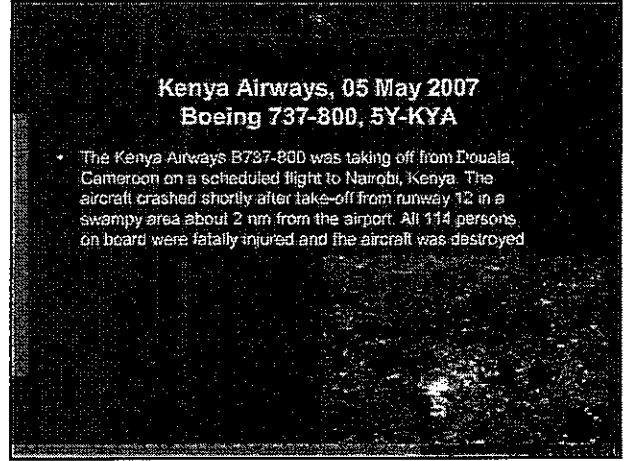
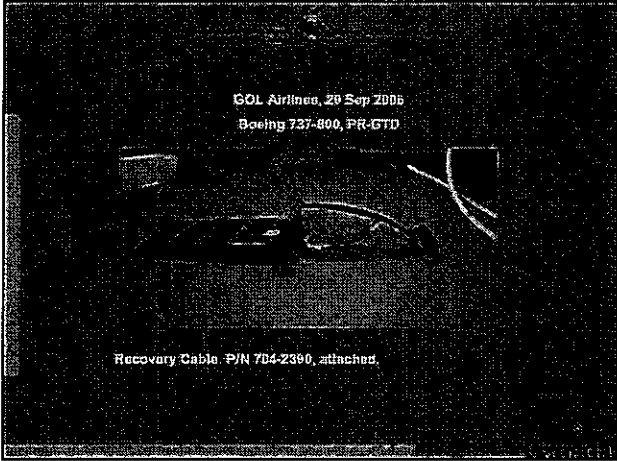
GOL Airlines, 29 Sep 2006
Boeing 737-800, PR-GTD

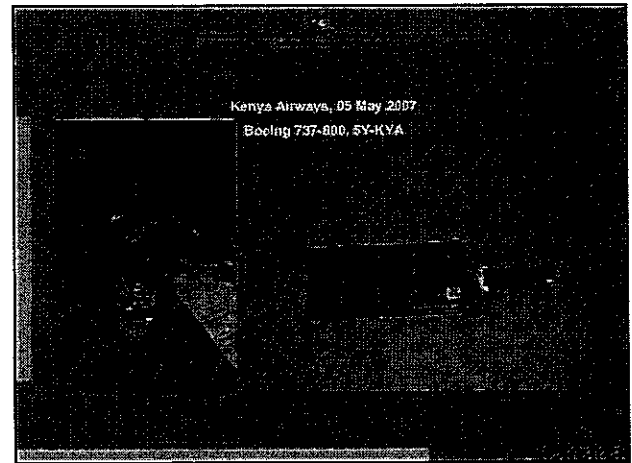
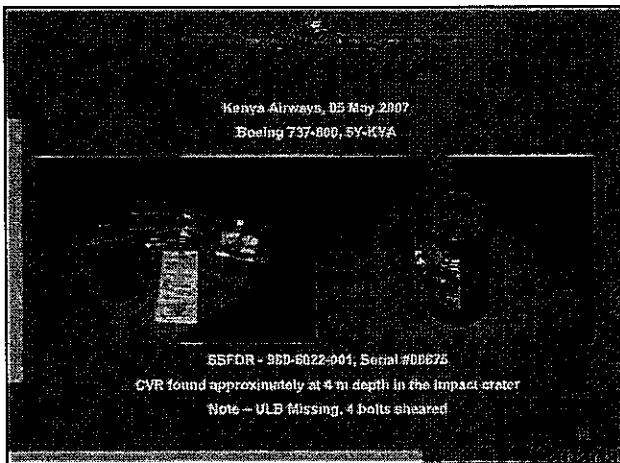
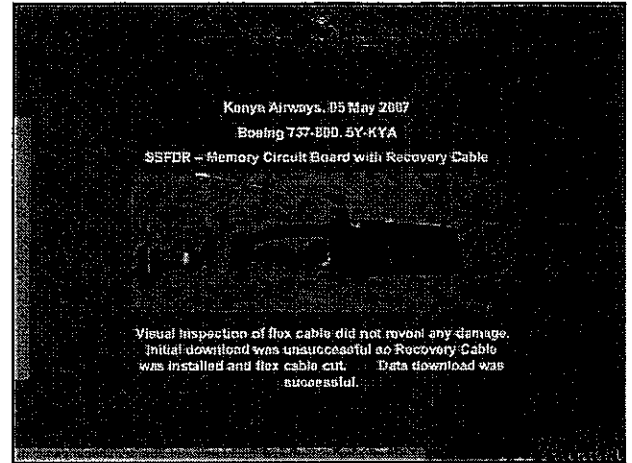
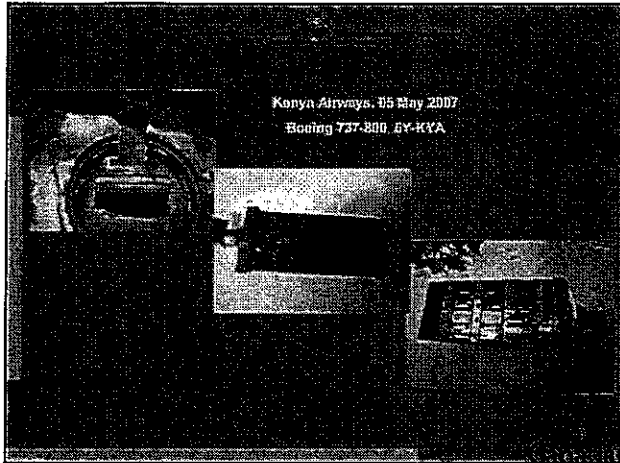


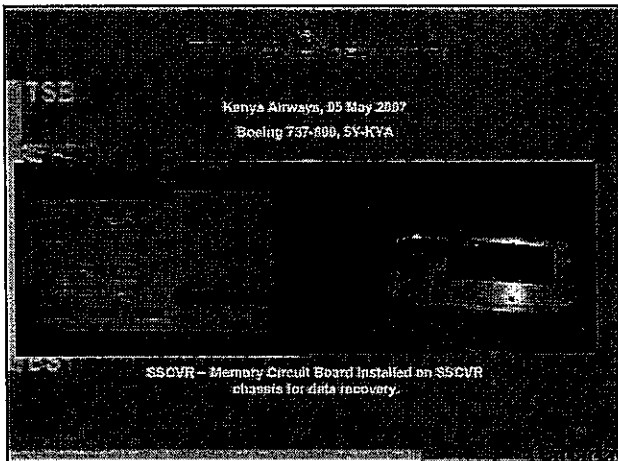
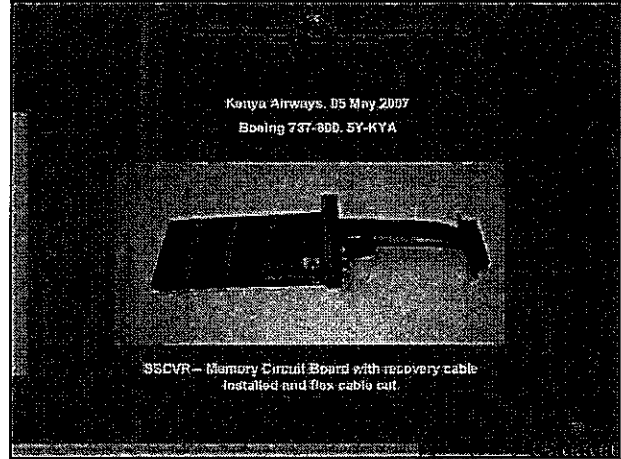
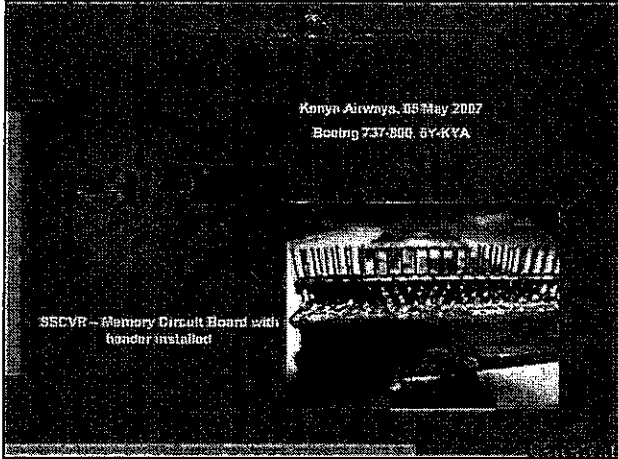
There was no damage to the SSFDR CSMU flex cable.

The CSMU was installed on a bench unit and successfully downloaded using PATS workstation.









Honeywell documentation, Rev B, dated 1/19/07, has been released and is available from Honeywell.

EAS Integrated Imaging Using MyView Software, Rev B, dated 1/19/07			
Honeywell International Inc.		Honeywell	
ADD TO YOUR CATALOGS: PROCEDURE FOR VOID STATE FOR AND/OR CAR DATA RECOVERY			
REV	CAGE CODE	QTY PER	REV
A	97888	022-0210	B
SHEET NO.		PAGE 1 OF 20	

Honeywell Contacts:

- Michael Thompson - Product/Customer Support Manager
Email: Michael.H.Thompson@honeywell.com
- Paul Gipson - Product Integrity Group
Email: Paul.Gipson@honeywell.com

Lessons Learned

- Flex cable can be damaged with no visible damage
- Installation of Recovery Flex Connector
 - SSFDR Memory board does not require installation of header
 - SSCVR Memory board requires installation of header (44 pin)
 - Time consuming and difficult
- Cutting Flex cable can cause shorts between layers
- Bench unit must be compatible with memory config (1X, 2X, 4X)
- Honeywell documentation is useful but not complete
- Honeywell very helpful



Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Issues with retrieval of data from Honeywell SSCVR

March 2007

Michael HILL

GOOD
TRANSPORT

Overview

- Garuda Indonesia Flight 200, Boeing 737-497, PK-GZC
- Recorder was recovered from accident site and transported safe-hand to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) Technical Analysis Facilities in Canberra, Australia.
- Recorder arrived in Canberra on Friday 09 March 2007



Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR)

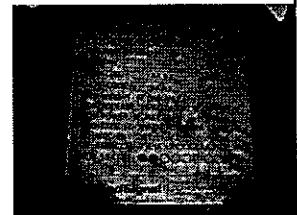
- Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) had been subjected to fire - sooted but relatively undamaged



Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Cockpit Voice Recorder Description

- SSCVR
 - Manufacturer: Allied Signal (Honeywell)
 - Model: Solid State Cockpit Voice Recorder (SSCVR)
 - Part Number: 980-6020-001
 - Serial Number: 1193
 - Date Code: 9532
 - Modification Status: 1 and 2



Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Cockpit Voice Recorder

- Records 4 channels of audio for 30 minutes
 - Pilot
 - Co-pilot
 - Spare / Intercom
 - Area Microphone
- Normal recovery would be the download of a single .DLU file of about 27MB which is then decompressed / segregated into four .wav files using Honeywell software
- For a damaged recorder a dedicated download chassis is required, the ATSB owns a 980-6022-001 SSCVR for this purpose.

CVR Controller Card

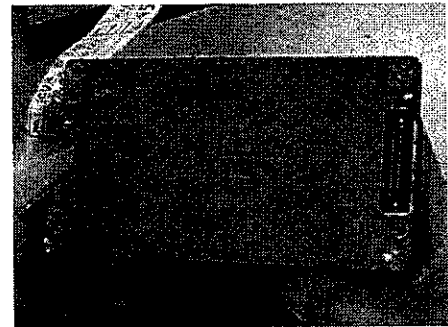
- PIN 97896 Assy 22-4052-003 Rev. F1, 8IN 852A
- Heat damage (melted solder)
- Unable to be used for download

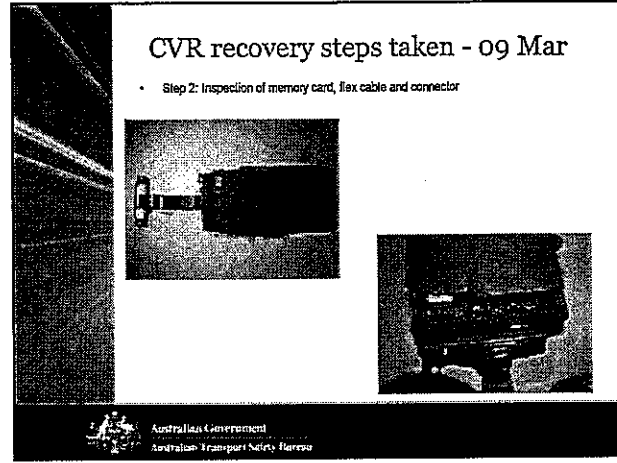
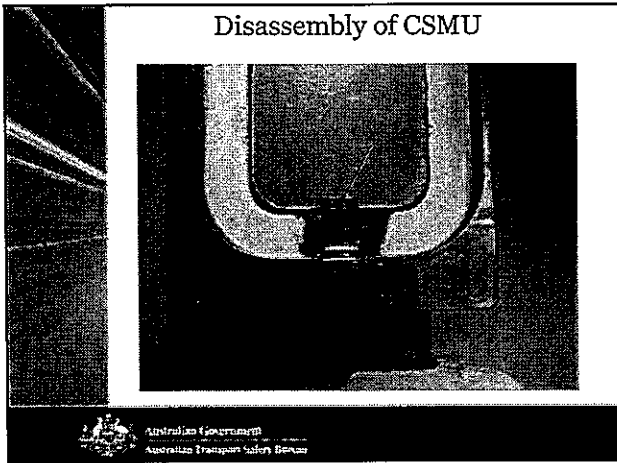
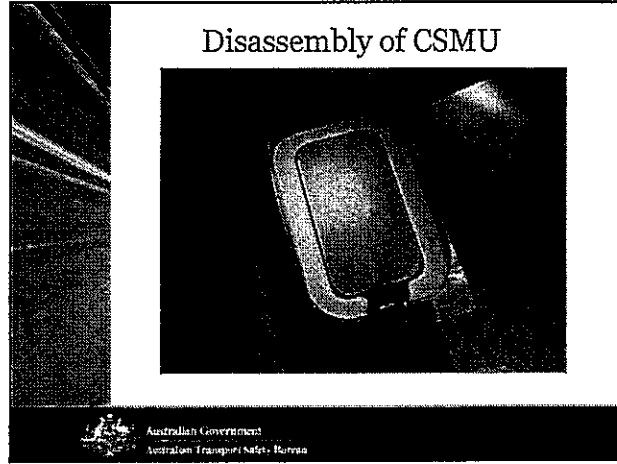
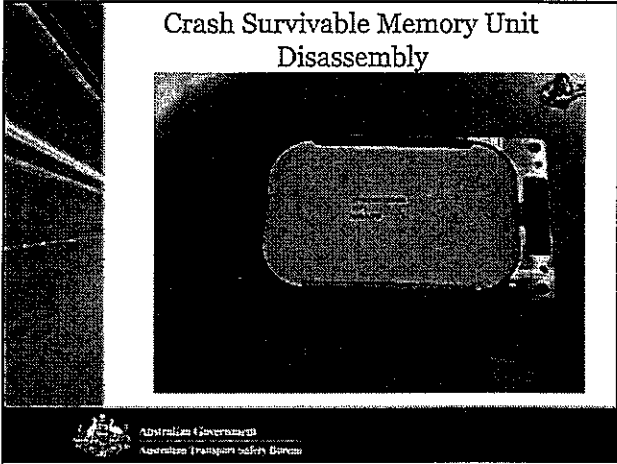


CVR recovery steps taken - 09 Mar

- Step 1: Crash survivable memory unit (CSMU) disassembly and removal of memory card from accident CVR

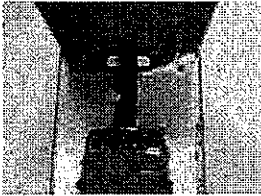
CVR base





CVR recovery steps taken - 09 Mar

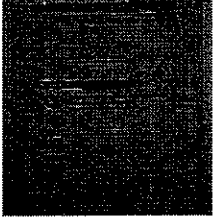
- Step 3: Successful check of download equipment, ATSB SSCVR (980-6022-001 - 2 hour), using Honeywell Recorders Portable Ground Support Equipment (RPGSE) before attempting the download of the memory board from the damaged SSCVR.
- Step 4: Installed accident memory card, including accident CVR flex cable, on ATSB SSCVR chassis (980-6022-001 - 2 hour). Did not use a new flex cable as the board contained 3 lumps of epoxy coating which prevented the ATSB CVR flex cable from being attached.



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CVR recovery steps taken - 09 Mar

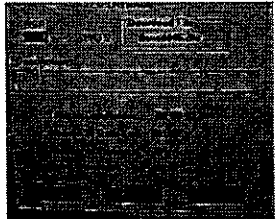
- Step 5: Attempted download of accident memory card using accident CVR flex cable, ATSB SSCVR chassis and RPGSE (Playback 32 software). Download unsuccessful, only 8k of the 27 k of data download



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CVR recovery steps taken - 09 Mar

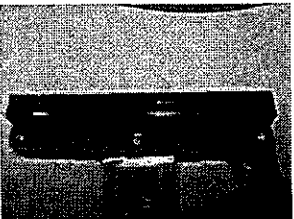
- Step 6: Attempted download of accident memory card using accident flex cable, ATSB SSCVR chassis and AlliedSignal Playback and Test Station (PATS) software. Download unsuccessful, only 6k of the 27 k of data downloaded.



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CVR recovery steps taken - 10 Mar

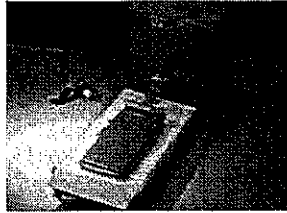
- Step 7: Following advice from Honeywell carefully removed the epoxy and cut the existing flex cable. Inspected flex for shorts between tracks and connected ATSB flex cable between accident memory card and ATSB SSCVR chassis (980-6022-001 - 2 hour). ATSB flex cable had to be modified to allow insertion.



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CVR recovery steps taken – 10 Mar

- Step 8: Attempted download of accident memory card using ATSB flex cable, ATSB SSCVR chassis (880-8022-001 - 2 hour) and RFGSE (Playback 32 software). Download unsuccessful. Error messages identical to initial download.

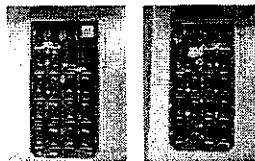


CVR recovery steps taken – 10 Mar

- Step 9: Point-point continuity check of flex cable connector and check of 5V and MEMO address lines.
- Step 10: Attempted download of accident memory card using ATSB flex cable, Qantas SSCVR chassis (880-8020-002) and RFGSE (Playback 32 software). Download unsuccessful, only 8K download. Error messages identical to initial download.

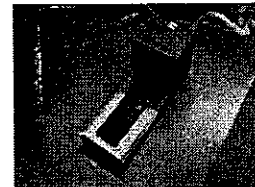
CVR recovery steps taken – 11 Mar

- Step 11: Removal of RTV memory card coating, inspection and careful cleaning of pins and sockets with alcohol




CVR recovery steps taken – 11 Mar

- Step 12: Attempted download of accident memory card using ATSB flex cable, QANTAS CVR and RFGSE (Playback 32 software). Download unsuccessful download. Error messages identical to initial download.



CVR recovery steps taken – 11 Mar



- Step 13: ATSB investigator to Honeywell with memory card with pre-arranged escort through X-ray security during transit (i.e. no X-raying of memory card)



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Honeywell

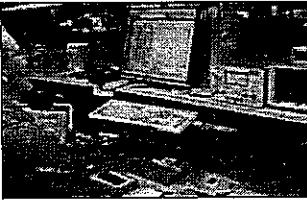

- The memory board was electrically checked on the header. There were no shorts to ground, +5 volts or adjacent pins

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Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Honeywell

- The memory board was installed on a chassis assembly and connected to PATS





Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

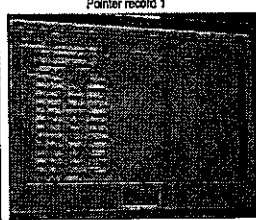
Honeywell


- The Electrically Erasable Programmable Read Only Memory (EEPROM) contents were read

Pointer record 0



Pointer record 1





Australian Government
Australian Transport Safety Bureau

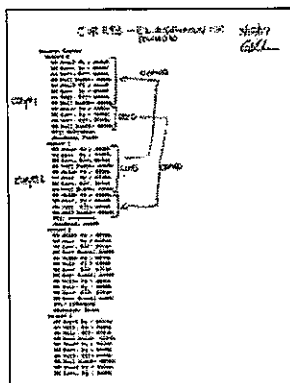
Honeywell

- The EEPROM contained the following information of interest:
 - Record 0 Narrow Band (NB) and Wide Band (WB) pointers were 'eeseh' indicating invalid pointers. The Mixed Band (MB), Elapsed Time Indicator (ETI) and checksum were valid.
 - Record 0 ETI was 169AF hexadecimal (45255.5 hours of operation)
 - Record 1 NB and WB pointers were valid. The MB was 'eeseh' indicating an invalid pointer. The ETI was 'eeseeseeh' and the checksum was 'eeseh' indicating they were invalid.
 - Record 2 and 3 had default information
- Record 0 and 1 must have the same pointers for all audio data to be downloaded. This was not the case for the CVR.

Honeywell

- A download was commenced to verify the results observed by the ATSB. Only 8 kilobytes of data was available for download. This was the same result as observed by the ATSB in Canberra. The download was stopped.
- The memory board was then installed on the emulator chassis assembly. The first byte in every memory chip contains the chip number, 00 to 1A hexadecimal. The first byte of memory chip 00, 01, 02, 03, 0F, 19 and 1A were verified correct. This test verified that the memory board was functioning electrically.
- The memory board was then placed on base connected to PATS. The EEPROM was read and saved to file 'e21193.ee'. The EEPROM file was edited using Utracedit to correct the pointers. The checksum was verified.

- EEPROM modifications

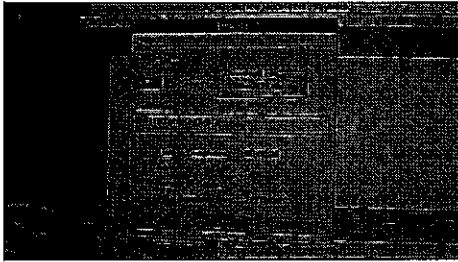


Honeywell

- The edited EEPROM file was then saved as file 'e21193.ee'. This edited file was then loaded into the EEPROM on the memory board. It should be noted that the EEPROM does not contain any audio data. No audio was changed by editing the EEPROM file.
- The EEPROM was read from the memory board. The pointers were verified to be as edited.

Honeywell

- A download was commenced. There were 27,912,528 bytes of data available for downloading. The download was completed successfully.



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Honeywell

- Honeywell stated this was the first time they had seen a problem like this.
- Possible reasons for the EEPROM corruption are:
 - The EEPROM has a limited number of write cycles. The SSCVR had operated for over 46,000 hours. This is approximately when the EEPROM maximum number of writes would occur.
 - During the accident a combination of environmental (example high temperature) and electrical conditions (example power spikes, low voltage) may have created a condition where the EEPROM was incorrectly written to or erased.



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FRED format editor FREDitor

Jim Cash



National Transportation Safety Board

FRED Standard

- Electronic documentation standard
- ARINC 647A standard
- ICAO FLIRECP Recommendation
- FAA adoption



National Transportation Safety Board

SOFTWARE

- Joint FAA - NTSB funding
- 8 months development cycle
- Beta for demo
- Full working copy for Oct EUROCAE mtg
- Final release in DEC 2007



National Transportation Safety Board

Software Features

- Full feature editor
- Input
 - Existing FRED file
 - ASCII, CSV import
 - 3rd party definition files
- Save FRED format
- Validate against FRED schema



National Transportation Safety Board

Beta Demonstration

- Opens – exports FRED files
- Basic features mandatory-optional
- Both 717 – 767 data frames
- Does not validate output
- Does not have ASCII or CSV importer



National Transportation Safety Board

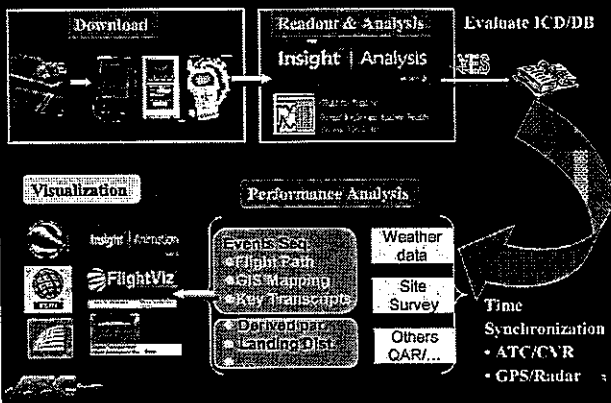
Applying combined data sets for performance analysis

Dr. Michael Guan
 Director of Investigation Lab
 Aviation Safety Council, Taiwan

Content

- Performance Analysis at ASC
 - Procedures
 - Available tools
 - Self-developing programs
- Cases Study
- Lessons Learned

Procedures at ASC LAB



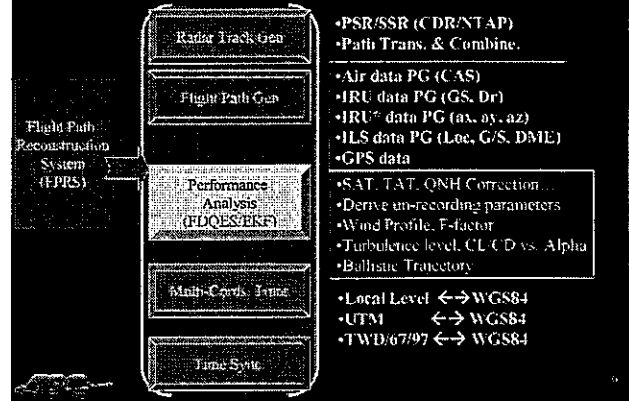
Aircraft Performance Analysis at ASC (Available tools)

- Dante/NTSB
- RAPS/Insight Building Functions
- **Commercial Matlab toolboxes**
 - Inertial Navigation Systems,
 - Flight Dynamics and Control
 - Aircraft Control & Handling Qualities (HQPAC)
- **Advanced Aircraft Analysis V2.4 (AAA)**
- **ASC self-developing programs**
 - Flight Path Reconstruction System (FPRS)
 - Flight Data Quality Enhancement System (FDQES)

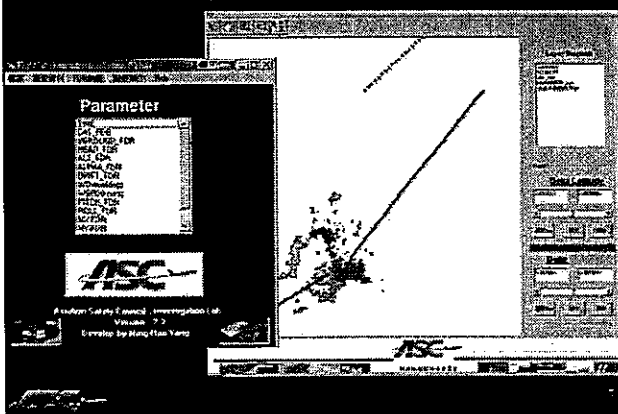
ASC self-developing programs

- **Flight Path Reconstruction System**
 - Flight path calculation (VB 6.0, GUI)
 - Multi data plotting (similar to Dante)
 - GIS mapping interface (MapInfo API)
- **Flight Data Quality Enhancement System**
 - Evaluate data kinematics consistence (Matlab v7)
 - Correct recorded parameters (bias, wrong data)
 - Derive unrecorded parameters
 - Perform performance analysis
 - Two modules: ASPD and GSPD

ASC self-developing programs



Demo: FPRS



Background Information

- Incorrect FDR data will affected the performance analysis, reasons:
 - Sensors calibration
 - Data recording resolution
 - Incorrect signal source into FDAU
 - Wrong data location/bits
- Using Kinematics and optimization method to processing FDR data (FDQES)
 - ensuring the flight data consistency
 - Obtain performance related flight data
 - FDQES is based on estimation theory of the Extended Kalman Filter (EKF)

Introduction of EKF (1/2)

- EKF is a sub-optimal extension of the original KF algorithm, it allows for estimation of non-linear processes or measurement relationships. (i.e. first order Taylor series approximation)

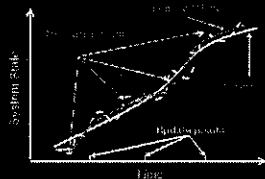
- Nonlinear Dynamic Model:

$$x_k = f(x_{k-1}, k-1) + w_k$$

- Measurement Model:

$$z_k = h(x_k, k) + v_k$$

f & h are nonlinear
Jacobian matrix



w_k : process noise
 v_k : measurement noise

Introduction of EKF (2/2)

- Prediction: sys. states

$$\hat{x}_k = f(\hat{x}_{k-1}, k-1) + w_k, w_k \sim N(0, Q_k)$$

- Prediction: measurement states

$$z_k = h(\hat{x}_k, k) + v_k, v_k \sim N(0, R_k)$$

- Prediction: error covariance matrix

$$P_k = \Phi_{k-1} P_{k-1} \Phi_{k-1}^T + Q_{k-1}$$

- Update: Kalman Gain

$$K_k = P_k H_k^T (H_k P_k H_k^T + R_k)^{-1}$$

- Update: estimate states

$$\hat{x}_k = \hat{x}_k + K_k (z_k - \hat{z}_k)$$

- Update: error covariance matrix

$$P_k = (I - K_k H_k) P_k$$

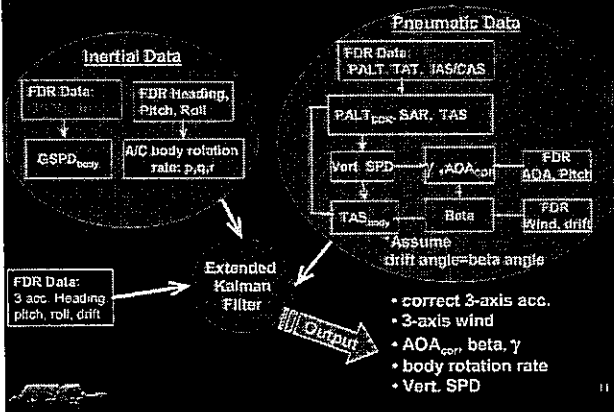
- Taylor approx. of f is done at previous epoch estimate

$$\Phi_{k-1}(k, k-1) = \frac{\partial f(x, k-1)}{\partial x} \Big|_{\hat{x}_{k-1}} + \text{higher order terms}$$

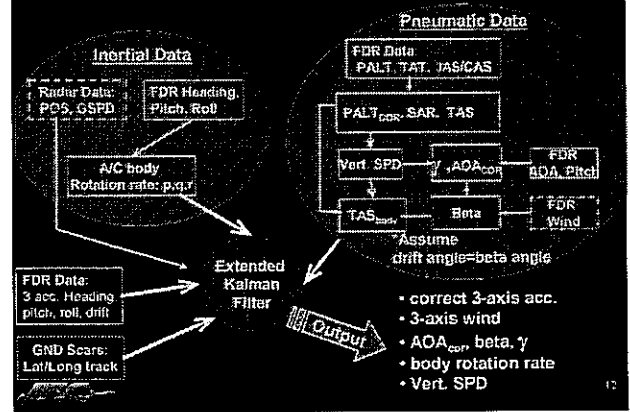
- Taylor approx. of h is done at corresponding predicted position

$$H_k(x, k) = \frac{\partial h(x, k)}{\partial x} \Big|_{\hat{x}_k} + \text{higher order terms}$$

FDQES: GSPD Module



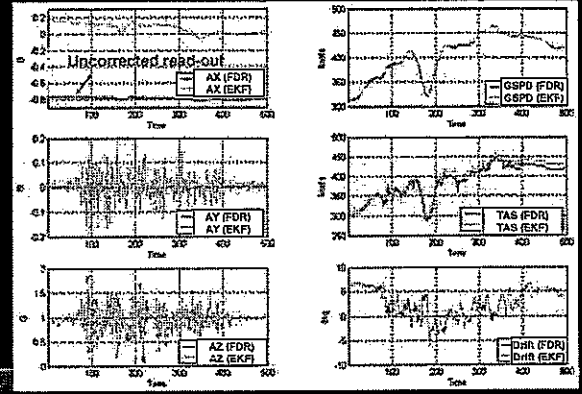
FDQES: ASPD Module



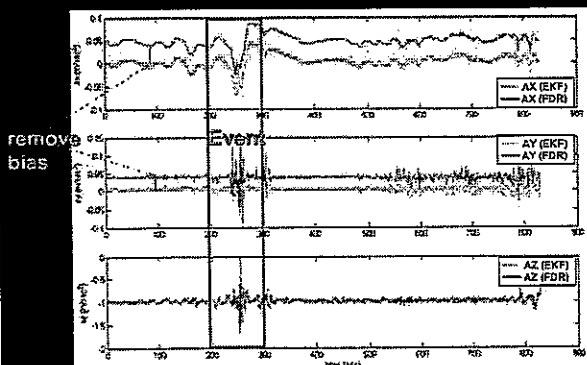
Cases Discussion

- 1. A/C encountered Turbulence
- 2. Limited FDR & Radar Data
 - ▣ Limited FDR data
 - ▣ Multi data sets
- 3. A/C runway veer off

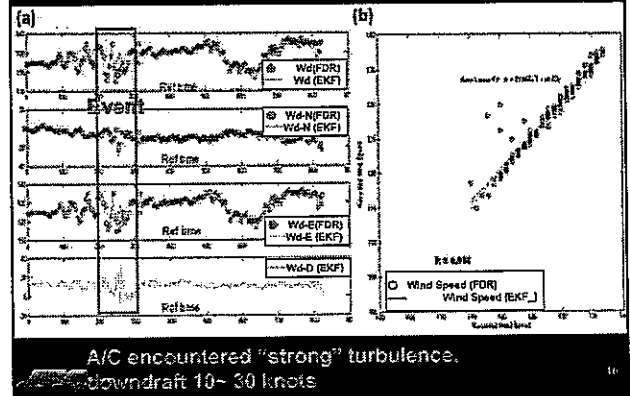
Data trial (incorrect ax)



2. A/C encountered Turbulence

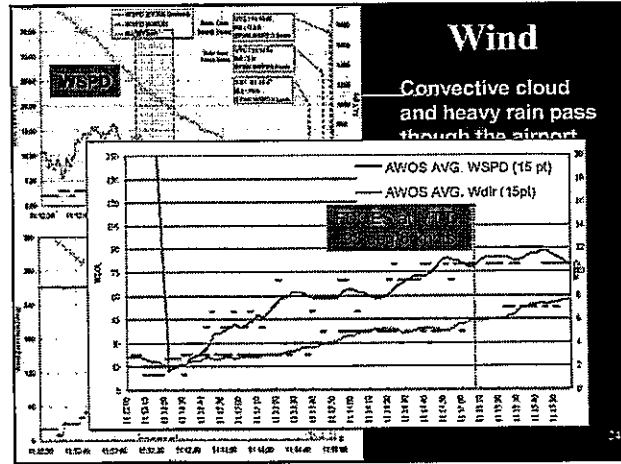
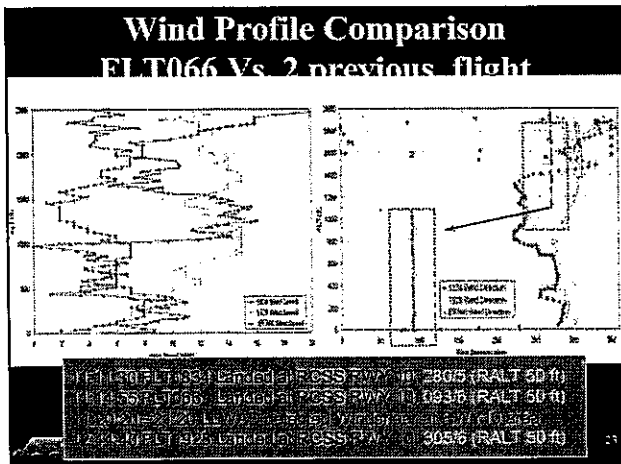


2. A/C encountered Turbulence





- ### FDQES in the FLT066
- ▣ Limited FDR data, it did not recording
 - ▣ Ground speed, drift, wind, lat/long position. . .
 - ▣ Airport Surveillance Radar track is available
 - ▣ Scanning rate 4.62 sec, below 200 ft no data (blind area)
 - ▣ Other useful factual data
 - ▣ Ground tracks, surface wind, two previous flight data
 - ▣ Performance problems
 - ▣ Evaluate the ILS path , touched down pt.
 - ▣ Calculate the wind
- 21



Flight Path Visualization: FLT066



Conclusion Remarks

- In order to analyze the combined data sets, the “engineering known-how” is key elements to conquer those challenges
 - Flight Path reconstruction is the essential procedure to determinate the sequence of events. Superpose of GIS layers will easier to understand “what and how” happened
 - FDQES is useful tool to processing FDR data, and derive interesting parameters
- 26

Next step at ASC LAB

Developing the engineering simulator to study the hazard weather conditions

???

27