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On October 30th, 2009 the Federal Aviation Administration, Alaska Department of Transportation, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Medallion Foundation signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' to partner, support and continue to develop the "Cue Based Training" program.

(L-R): John Cramer, Chief of Staff, Lt. Governor's Office; Nicholas Mastrodicasa, DOT Project Manager, Aviation Division; DOT Commissioner, Leo von Scheben; Mary O'Connor, NIOSH, Aviation Safety Program; Christine Klein, DOT Deputy Commissioner of Aviation; Dr. George Conway MD, NIOSH; Bob Lewis, FAA Alaska Regional Administrator; Angela Birdson-Elgee, FAA Flight Standards Division Manager Alaska; Richard Harding, Medallion Foundation Board President; David Karalunaas, FAA Alaskan Region Aviation Safety.

## SAFETY IS NOT A FOUR-LETTER WORD

by Richard Harding, Medallion Foundation President

The Medallion Foundation awards dinner on November 30th at O'Mally's on the Green was a very successful event. It was an excellent location and was sold out weeks ahead. The dinner was to honor the new Star recipients and Shield carriers. We also honored Senator Ted Stevens with the "Above the Bar Award"

The Foundation honored Senator Stevens this year for the unrelenting dedication he has had for aviation safety in Alaska.

There have been a lot of changes in our aviation infrastructure and culture that have been made possible by the tenacity of our own Sen. Stevens. The Senator fought every year for an AK Supplement to the Airport Improvement Program, a program that provided additional funding for rural Alaskan airports. The Airport Improvement program provided money to all airports based on the size of the community and strongly favored lower 48 communities. The Supplement was put in place to offset this deficiency. He appropriated an additional \$10M every year, through a lot of political arm-twisting, for Alaskan runways. The last couple of years he had been able to up that amount to \$21M. Because of that effort, runways in AK were brought to the new minimum standard of 3,300'. Additionally he got most of the runways in Alaska lighted, a state in which a great percentage is in darkness 24 hours for several months of the year.

He also funded the Capstone Program, the Weather Camera Program, kept open Flight Service Stations in Alaska and appropriated funding for a program to produce high resolution mapping for the passes in AK.

(These high resolution maps are used in the Medallion training simulators). As a pilot himself, he understands the need and importance of aviation in Alaska.

Of course, most important, he was the one that convinced congress to provide funding for our Medallion Foundation which has been able to facilitate a change in culture in Alaskan aviation community.

This only is the second time this award has been given. Last year it went to Angela Elgee. The award is presented annually to a person that has

## 2009 Medallion Foundation's Shield and Star Carriers

*This years recipients*

### Shield Carrier

*Alaska Airlines*

*Era Aviation*

*PenAir*

*Taquan Air*

*Wings of Alaska*

*Wings Airways*

### Star Carriers

*Aero-Metric*

*Arctic Transportation Services*

*Aviation Managment Directorate*

*Bald Mountain Air Service*

*Bering Air*

*Hageland Aviation*

*Lynden Air Cargo*

*Missionary Aviation Repair Center*

*Pacific Airways*

*Prism Helicopters*

*Yute Air Alaska*

*Congratulations to the air carriers that are  
"Changing the Culture of Aviation in Alaska"*

### **ATDs and Simulator Locations**

Looking for something to do during those dark snowy days.; locate the ATD (aviation training device) nearest you. It's easy and its free to practice your flying skills.

<http://medallionfoundation.org/ATDlocations.asp>

### Join Our Mailing List

#### Quick Links

[www.MedallionFoundation.org](http://www.MedallionFoundation.org)

[www.alaskaaircarriers.org](http://www.alaskaaircarriers.org)

contributed significantly to aviation safety in Alaska. Thank you Senator Stevens.

## Medallion Foundation Board of Directors

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## CLASSES in January/ February 2010 RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!

Human Factor Workshop  
January 31, 2010, Sunday  
Anchorage, Alaska

System Safety & Company Aviation Safety Officer Course  
February 1st & 2nd, 2010, Monday/Tuesday  
Anchorage, Alaska

System Safety & Company Aviation Safety Officer Course  
February 4th & 5th, 2010 Thursday/Friday  
Juneau, Alaska

Juneau TapRooT(R) Refresher Course  
February 17, 2010  
Juneau, Alaska

TapRooT(R) Initial Course  
February 18th & 19th, 2010  
Juneau, Alaska

TapRooT(R) Initial Course  
March 1st, 2010  
Anchorage, Alaska

To Register and updates for Classes go to  
[www.MedallionFoundation.org](http://www.MedallionFoundation.org)

Medallion Foundation will cancel the class at least  
two weeks prior if the class has less than six (6) students.

### What's in the Plan... Future Aviation Events to Attend

Alaska Air Carriers Association's  
44th Annual Convention and Trade Show  
*Conference:* March 1-5, 2010  
*Trade Show:* March 2-4, 2010  
Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage, Alaska  
[www.alaskaaircarriers.org](http://www.alaskaaircarriers.org)

2010 ALASKA STATE AVIATION TRADE SHOW AND  
CONFERENCE  
MAY 1 - 2, 2010

FedEx Maintenance Hangar,  
Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport  
<http://www.alaskaairmen.org/>

Valdez Fly-In  
Valdez Airport  
May 7th & 8th, 2010  
[www.valdezalaska.org](http://www.valdezalaska.org)

2nd Annual Palmer Aviation Safety Seminar and Fly-In  
July 24 & 25th, 2010  
Palmer Airport, Palmer Alaska

Arctic Thunder  
July 31-Aug. 1, 2010  
Elmendorf Air Force Base's Air Show and Open House --  
featuring performances by the U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron Blue  
Angels and the Canadian Forces Snowbirds Demonstration Team.  
<http://www.elmendorf.af.mil/library/arcticthunder/index.asp>

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