

# Improving the Safety of Current and Future Aircraft Through Integrated Health Monitoring

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### Outline



- Need for Improved Aviation Safety
- NASA's Aviation Safety Program
- Future Concept of Operation
- IVHM Project
  - ➤Vehicle Health Technologies
  - Environmental Hazards Technologies
  - ➤ Systems Technologies
  - Benchmark Problems
- Partnership Opportunities
- Summary
- Questions?

## Need for Improved Aviation Safety





Forward fuselage, Aloha Airlines (1 person killed)



Vertical Tail, American Airlines Flt 587 (265 killed)



Engine, Delta Flight 1288 (2 people killed)



U.S. Forest Service C-130, near Walker, CA (3 killed)

### NASA's Aviation Safety Program



## **Aviation Safety Program**





#### Integrated Vehicle Health Management (IVHM)

- Continuous assessment
- In-flight
- Life of vehicle

#### Integrated Resilient Aircraft Control (IRAC)

- Robust control systems
- Overcome upset flight conditions
- Duration of flight





#### Integrated Intelligent Flight Deck (IIFD)

- Adaptive flight systems
- Synthetic vision
- In-flight

#### Aircraft Aging and Durability (AAD)

- In-depth analysis
- Periodic inspection
- Ground-based
- Life of vehicle



## **IVHM Future Concept of Operations**





#### **IVHM Research Areas**





#### Vehicle Health Technologies





#### Vehicle Health Technologies





#### Vehicle Health Technologies





#### **Environmental Hazards Technologies**





#### **Environmental Hazards Technologies**





#### **Environmental Hazards Technologies**





## **Systems Technologies**





## **Systems Technologies**





## **Systems Technologies**





## **Benchmark Problems: Lightning Strikes**





### Partnership Opportunities





## Summary





- IVHM is part of a comprehensive four-component Aviation Safety Program
- IVHM provides on-board assessment and management of vehicle health, environmental hazards, and systems technologies
- IVHM addresses the need for in-flight detection, diagnosis, prognosis, and mitigation of in-flight hazards
- IVHM meets the demands of next-generation air transportation systems through innovative technologies including an integrated, on-board approach
- NASA partnership mechanisms include SAA, SBIR, STTR, and NRA opportunities (see NASA websites for list of current opportunities)



## Questions?



## **Backup Slides**

### **Partnership Opportunities**

Space Act Agreement (SAA)

www.nasa.gov/offices/ogc/about/samanual.html

 Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) / Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

>sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/SBIR/SBIR.html

NASA Research Announcement (NRA)

<u>nspires.nasaprs.com/external</u>

Unsolicited Proposals

<u>ec.msfc.nasa.gov/hq/library/unSol-Prop.html</u>



#### **Aviation Accidents**

- Aloha Airlines (Boeing 737)
  - ➢ Forward fuselage
  - > 18' of fuselage separated from the passenger floor line (aft of cabin entrance)
  - > <36K flight hours, but high ground-air-ground cycles
  - Linking of fatigue cracks from fastener holes (multi-site fatigue damage)
- AA 587 (Airbus A300, Jamaica Bay, NY)
  - ➤ Vertical tail
  - > In-flight separation of the vertical tail
  - Loads beyond ultimate
  - Excessive/unnecessary rudder pedal inputs by 1<sup>st</sup> officer
  - ➢ Right rear lug failed at a load of almost 2X design limit load (DLL)



#### **Aviation Accidents**



• Delta Airlines Flight 1288 (McDonnell Douglas MD-88)

➢ Right engine

- Front compressor hub on #1 engine shattered, penetrated left aft fuselage
- > Final fracture of fatigue crack, growing from a mfg. defect at tie rod hole in compressor hub
- US Forest Service tanker (C-130A)
  - > Both wings detached after dropping payload and leveling out
  - > Fast fracture of 12" fatigue crack (not detected during regular inspections)

#### **Aviation Accident Descriptions**



- Figure 3(a) shows the forward fuselage section of an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 shortly after separation of 18 feet of fuselage above the passenger floor line and immediately aft of the cabin entrance door. Although the airframe had only 35,496 flight hours, the number of ground-air-ground cycles was much larger than might be expected because of the short duration of many of the aircraft's flights between the various Hawaiian islands. The cause of the Aloha Airlines accident was attributed to the linking of fatigue cracks emanating from fastener holes (multi-site fatigue damage).
- Figure 3(b) shows the vertical tail of American Airlines flight 587, an Airbus A300, as it was recovered from Jamaica Bay in New York. The cause of the American Airlines accident was determined to be the in-flight separation of the vertical tail as the result of loads beyond ultimate that were created by the first officer's unnecessary and excessive rudder pedal inputs. Analyses at NASA Langley Research Center showed that of the six attachment lugs that join the vertical tail and fuselage, the right rear lug failed first at a load of almost two times the design limit load (DLL).
- Figure 3(c) shows the right engine of a Delta Airlines flight 1288, a McDonnell Douglas MD-88, after the front compressor hub of the #1 engine shattered and penetrated the left aft fuselage. The cause of the accident was final fracture of a fatigue crack growing from a manufacturing defect at a tie rod hole in the compressor hub.
- Figure 3(d) shows one of several tankers operated by the U.S. Forest Service that recently suffered catastrophic structural failures. In the case shown, both wings of a C-130A detached from the fuselage at their respective center wing box-to-fuselage attachment locations after the aircraft dropped its payload and began to arrest its decent and level out. Examination of the center wing box lower skin revealed that failure was caused by fast fracture of a 12-inch long fatigue crack that had not been detected during regular inspections.

#### **Partnership Opportunities**

- Space Act Agreement (SAA)
  - Facilitates industry partnerships
  - Request For Information (RFI) released in January 2006
- NASA Research Announcements (NRA)
  - > 8 awards in Round 1
  - > Announcement for Round 2 expected in April / May 2007
- Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR)
  - Three topics considered for award
- Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)
  - Industry development and implementation based on NASA research
- Integration and Assessment Working Group (IAWG)
  - Inter-center coordination of integration architecture and strategy



#### **Partnership Opportunities**

NASA

- Aviation Safety (AvSafe) Industry Days
  - Held September 2006 at Dulles Marriott
  - > 32 participants from 15 companies and organizations
  - ≻ 6 working groups formed
- Working Groups
  - ➢ Database
  - Generic Systems Modeling and Simulation
  - ➢ Sensors
  - Validation, Verification, and Certification Basis
  - Algorithms and Signal Processing
  - Education
- Aerospace Industry Steering Committee (AISC) for Structural Health Monitoring (SHM)

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