



Agenda Item 3: RASG-PA Working Groups
3.2 Regional Aviation Safety Team (RAST-PA)

ACI APEX IN SAFETY PROGRAMME

(Presented by ACI-LAC)

SUMMARY

The ACI APEX (Airport Excellence) in Safety Programme will provide the necessary framework for airports around the world to benefit from, and lend, the knowledge and experience of their safety experts in identifying and prioritizing the actions that individual airports can take to reduce risks and improve responsiveness in the event of an incident. APEX pilot projects will serve as models for ACI members worldwide. Expected outcomes include tangible increases in safety and compliance by members in response to specific needs identified by participating airports with the ultimate goal of reducing the potential for airport safety related incidents.

Strategic Objective(s)	<i>This working paper is related to Strategic Objective(s) A – Safety</i>
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1. Introduction

1.1 The ACI APEX (Airport Excellence) in Safety program is a multi-faceted program designed to assist airports improve safety using a combination of structured peer reviews conducted at the airport location, training, sponsorship of regional safety conferences and provision of supporting safety documentation as well as industry best practices. The APEX program is conducted in close coordination with ACI Regional Offices and with ICAO.

1.2 APEX will provide the necessary framework for airports around the world to benefit from, and lend, the knowledge and experience of their safety experts in identifying and prioritizing the actions that individual airports can take to timely identify and reduce risks and improve responsiveness in the event of an incident.

1.3 APEX in Safety is designed to help airports worldwide identify and address safety vulnerabilities and is built on the ICAO principles of information transparency, in a non-punitive, ‘just culture’ environment, where sharing data and best practices lead to excellence. ACI matches Airport Safety Partners to help one another.

1.4 The peer review process review the airport’s facilities, procedures and organizational structure of the airport regarding safety.

2. General Objectives of ACI APEX in Safety

2.1 The goal of the peer review is to bring experienced observers from other airports (peers) to provide an independent assessment of the factors affecting safety at the requesting airport and to identify industry —best practices|| that can be provided to enhance safety. The specific review conducted onsite is guided by the ICAO Audit Protocol – Aerodromes, Air Routes and Ground Aids by the ACI —Best Industry Practice Safety Management System Gap Analysis and Audit Tool|| and by any additional objectives set out by the requesting airport.

2.2 In addition, the APEX team also reviews and provides guidance for expediting the process of aerodrome certification and for the implementation of a Safety Management System (SMS), including assistance with a gap analysis relating to the SMS. Specific objectives of the programme would include: Assistance with putting into operation of the Safety Management System Assistance with the process of requesting Certification of the Aerodrome

3. Conclusions

3.1 As the leader of the airports industry, ACI is pleased to facilitate a partnering process whereby each airport by virtue of its unique characteristics, size, strengths and knowledge can contribute to helping others improve safety compliance and reduce and/or mitigate the risks of airport incidents worldwide.

3.2 ACI and ICAO must continue their respective roles of facilitating and enhancing effective safety levels at airports and within States, and the implementation of this innovative programme will target that objective.

4. Suggested Action

4.1 The importance of safety management on the aerodrome should be acknowledged by the various partners with safety responsibilities, therefore the RASG-PA is invited to:

- a) support the ACI APEX programme;
- b) lend State/CAA support to APEX peer reviews at airports in their territory;
and
- c) assist in identifying potential partner airport willing to assist either as a recipient or donor for the APEX programme.