

NACA

Washington Wire

28 October 2025



We fly for you®

Rotorcraft Operations Transparency and Oversight Reform (ROTOR) Act

The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee recently passed the ROTOR Act by voice vote after the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee worked out compromise language. Drafted in response to the mid-air collision near DCA between a regional aircraft and a military helicopter, the bill's provisions would require all aircraft operating in controlled airspace, including military/law enforcement aircraft, to use both ADS-B Out and ADS-B In. Various carriers, including some NACA members operating older aircraft, will have issues complying with the ADS-B In portion of the requirement.

We have raised these concerns with Committee staff and understand there are Senators who are sympathetic to our situation. House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Sam Graves opposes some of the provisions of the bill, including the ADS-B In requirement. We are seeking a resolution that would permit TCAS and/or ACAS as an acceptable alternative means of compliance.

TSA Reauthorization Update

The House Homeland Security Committee solicited suggestions for legislative text from various trade associations for the upcoming TSA Reauthorization Bill. NACA member Security Directors helped NACA identify two main priorities: providing additional guardrails and time limits on the issuance of Security Directives and Emergency Amendments; and encouraging industry input and sharing TSA reporting results on the development of security risk assessments by TSA. Drafting of appropriate language is in process with member input; we will submit our proposed provisions upon completion.

CDC Dog Importation Waiver

We are waiting for an answer from CDC on our request for a waiver from new industry requirements on the importation of dogs into the United States for military charter flights. CDC policy staff currently is furloughed by the government shutdown; we will re-engage once the shutdown is ended.

US Aviation Safety Team (USAST) Update

Because of the government shutdown, FAA participation in October's USAST was extremely limited, though FAA Co-Chair Jodi Baker was able to attend. There were robust and productive discussions on a variety of issues from the sector safety teams, as well as updates on the transition of the Aviation National Safety Information Registry (ANSIR) from Flight Safety Foundation to MITRE, and training on ASIAs 3.0 focused on the new enclave process. Briefings were provided on Communications Working Group progress towards a strategic plan and rules of the road for safety intelligence products, InfoShare, Horizon Air's Air Traffic Risk Calculator, and the Drone Safety Team's application for admission to the USAST as a full sector domain member.

Commercial Aviation Safety Team (USCAST)

In an effort to maintain progress on aviation safety issues, USCAST industry representatives will meet in Dallas from November 4-6 without FAA attendance due to the shutdown.

(next page)



NACA We fly for you®

NACA Washington Wire is a publication of **National Air Carrier Association, Inc.**
1735 N. Lynn St., Suite 105, Arlington, VA 22209 USA.

© 2025 National Air Carrier Association, Inc.
www.naca.aero

Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) Updates

The Installation of Physical Secondary Barrier (IPSB) ARC completed their work and voted to submit their report without dissent. The Innovative Technology ARC completed its work, with submission of the final report extended to the end of August. A few ARC members registered dissents from the findings of the final report.

InfoShare Update

While InfoShare currently is scheduled for November 18-20 in Seattle, it will be cancelled if the government does not end the shutdown by Friday, October 31, 2025. As previously reported, NACA Vice President for Technical Services George Paul will step down from his position as industry co-chair of the cargo domain after the conference. National Airlines Director of Safety Doug Neufeldt, along with ALPA's dangerous goods program leader, will assist George at InfoShare before fully assuming the role next year.

NACA Safety, Operations and Maintenance Joint Council meeting

The combined councils met at NACA headquarters on October 22, 2025. While FAA representatives did not attend, the discussions were excellent. Members have begun having an issue with new local FAA aviation safety inspectors interpreting whether ASAP data is from a sole source, thus potentially jeopardizing program integrity.

The technical councils agreed to a new format where all three councils meet on Wednesday, then meet with FAA representatives on Thursday. The security council is proposing to meet on Tuesday before the technical councils, subject to TSA availability. This should help with travel costs and allow all departments within airlines to talk with each other on crossover issues. Our 2026 meeting schedule is set for March 25-26, June 24-25, and October 21-22. The current chairs all agreed to serve another term under the new format.

Nov. 5 Security Council Meeting Postponed

As a result of the ongoing government shutdown, the Security Council has decided to postpone its November 5 meeting indefinitely. We are looking into the possibility of holding an online meeting in December, depending on when the shutdown is ended and whether TSA staff will be available to join.

