

# President's Page

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The International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM) in Jerusalem, Israel, 7-16 October, is now a wonderful and lasting memory. The efforts of Congress President Dr. Yehezkel Caine, and President of the Israel Society of Aviation and Space Medicine Dr. Jossy Faktor, and the many involved resulted in an unqualified success. As usual, the papers presented were global in content and of excellent quality. The Andre Allard Lecture by Professor Yossi Leshem addressed the migration pattern of 500,000,000 birds that make the twice annual "pilgrimage" via the Holy Land heading south in the winter and then north for the summer and efforts to identify safe corridors for air travel. Another highlight was the philosophical and inspirational presentation by our very own Dr. Chuck Berry on "A View of the Space Program's Relation to Life on Earth." During the final dinner, Dr. Anthony Batchelor surrendered his 2-year Presidency of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM) to incoming President Dr. Daniel Lestage, Past President of our Association. After the conference, Fran and I traveled south to Masada, a float in the Dead Sea, and the amazing Petra, Jordan. Fran and I then visited the Assaf-Harofeh Medical Center in Tel Aviv, where I gave a presentation on the history of decompression sickness research at Brooks AFB/City-Base, TX, to representatives of the Institute of Hyperbaric Medicine. Then it was back to Texas, carrying memories and hundreds of photos. We look forward to seeing many of the 2013 ICASM attendees at our Association meeting in San Diego next May and at the 2014 ICASM in Mexico City next October.

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Mark E. Mavity, M.D., M.P.H., current President of the American Society of Aerospace Medicine Specialists (ASAMS), provided the following Constituent summary.

ASAMS was created to serve as a voice for and represent the professional needs of Aerospace Medicine specialists in the United States. The first organizational meeting in Seattle, WA, on 21 May 1998 was attended by 85 founding members and other interested physicians. The Society has met annually since then at AsMA's annual scientific meeting. The Society now has 325 total members, with 233 in full active and current status. Included amongst these ranks are 12 AsMA Past Presidents. Full Member status with voting rights is open to those who have demonstrated a high level of expertise in aerospace medicine as evidenced by certification in aerospace medicine from the American Board of Preventive Medicine or the American Osteopathic Board of Preventive Medicine. Associate Member status is open to those who have a degree of Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from a medical school located in the United States or Canada and have a genuine interest in the specialty of aerospace medicine. Medical Students or Residents with an interest in the specialty of aerospace medicine may apply for Student/Resident membership. Associate and Student/Resident members do not have voting privileges in ASAMS. All membership categories require current membership in the Aerospace Medical Association. ASAMS membership for Full or



**James T. Webb, Ph.D.**

Associate members is \$10.00 per year. The fee for students and residents is \$5.00. Membership information can be found on the ASAMS website at <http://asams.org>.

The Society is dedicated to the advancement of aerospace medicine by: establishing standards for the specialty of Aerospace Medicine, including but not limited to the development of core competencies for residents in Aerospace Medicine and practice guidelines for Aerospace Medicine practitioners; representing and promoting the interests of physicians who specialize in Aerospace Medicine; promoting and preserving the highest professional standards of care among practitioners of Aerospace Medicine; encouraging young physicians and medical students in the specialty of Aerospace Medicine; and increasing the value of the specialty of Aerospace Medicine to prospective employers.

In support of our membership, the Society is actively engaged in developing the structure and coherency needed to support the evolving requirements associated with Maintenance of Certification, and to provide a forum for emerging employment opportunities within the practice of Aerospace Medicine. The Society is an active and close partner with AsMA in these and numerous other endeavors.

The Society has a committee structure similar to that of AsMA with a corresponding Policy, Practice, and Procedures Manual which outlines committee activities throughout the year. There is a full membership meeting on Wednesday mornings during the annual AsMA Scientific Meeting which is open to all who are interested. Additionally the Society hosts one or two panel sessions during each Scientific Meeting. The 2013 meeting had two very well attended sessions which reviewed a number of the most relevant of the 84 Practice Guidelines that have been published by the Society since its inception. All Practice Guidelines are posted on the Society's website. Additionally, the Society-sponsored activity which typically sparks some of the greatest interest and enthusiasm during the AsMA Annual Scientific Meeting is the now quite popular Ram Bowl competition that challenges the aerospace medicine knowledge of teams from the various Aerospace Medicine Residency programs.

# Association News

## Aerospace Physiology Board Certification Announcement 2014

by Heath M. Clifford, LCDR, MSC, USN, CAsP

The Executive Council of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), acting upon recommendations of the Aerospace Physiology Certification Board, grants certification in aerospace physiology. Board certification in aerospace physiology was established by the Aerospace Medical Association to encourage the study, improve the practice, and elevate the standards of excellence in aerospace physiology. Formal Board Certification provides an avenue for professional and peer recognition in aerospace medicine, and is a worthy goal for members to attain.

This year's certification examination will be offered at the 85th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Aerospace Medical Association on Sunday, 11 May 2014, in San Diego, CA.

Board certification is for professionals with an abiding interest and demonstrated productivity in the field of aerospace physiology. Applicants must possess, as a minimum, a baccalaureate degree either in physiology or a closely related science. A history of significant contributions to aerospace physiology is also required. Applicants should have 5 years of active professional experience in an aeromedical field. Exceptional applicants can request a waiver of any and all of the aforementioned eligibility requirements by submitting a letter to the Admissions Committee Chair. This letter shall specify experience, knowledge, education, or other facets which alleviate the need to meet eligibility requirements.

The 5-hour exam contains questions covering various areas relevant to aerospace physiology, including but not limited to general human physiology, acceleration physiology, decompression physiology, impact, hypoxia, vibration and noise, operational aspects, space physiology, and spatial orientation.

**Applications and letters of reference are due to the Admissions Committee no later than Saturday, 1 March 2014.** Applicants should contact the Admissions Chair for an application form (available in English only). Applicants must also submit a suitable digital portrait photograph (5 × 7), a short professional biography of less than 300 words, two professional letters of recommendation submitted directly to the Board, and a one-time, non-refundable Application Fee of \$25 (U.S.). A non-refundable \$75 Examination Fee is due prior to the exam. Make checks payable to the Aerospace Physiology Certification Board. Applicants must submit documents to the Admissions Chair in a digital format: MS-Word compatible for text documents and high-resolution JPEG for graphics/photos.

Applications for Aerospace Physiology Board Certification are available from the Admissions Committee Chairman: James W. Davis, Maj., USAF, BSC, CAsP Aerospace & Operational Physiology Flight Commander

20th Aerospace Medicine Squadron  
431 Myers Street  
Shaw AFB, SC 29151  
Email: james.davis.16@us.af.mil  
Comm: (803) 895-6789

**Deadline for Application: 1 March 2014**

## Preventive Medicine 2014

CAPT Paul Jung, USPHS, 2014 Conference Chair

AsMA members and subscribers are invited to attend *Preventive Medicine 2014*, February 19-22, 2014, in New Orleans, LA. Preventive Medicine 2014 the premier educational opportunity for preventive medicine physicians and health professionals committed to disease prevention and health promotion. This year's theme is "*Innovation in Preventive Medicine*." As resources for public health and prevention are drastically reduced, Preventive Medicine 2014 will explore ways that we can design and implement innovative, effective, and efficient population-based programs, both private and public, in our new age of austerity.

We will continue to offer programming in the fields of Population Health, Clinical Preventive Medicine, Informatics & Technology, and Quality Improvement, as well as sessions for Career Development and Military Medicine. In addition, we will have unique and exciting programming this year, including: The New Orleans Sessions; an Innovation Forum; an Abstract Writing and Oral Presentation Workshop; Meet the AJPM Editors; sessions on Global Health; and a Basic Life Support and "Street" Medicine course.

Finally, we have a strong lineup of confirmed plenary lecturers, including our KBS Lecturer Dr. Ken Warner (Avedis Donabedian Distinguished University Professor of Public Health), Dr. Nils Dulaire (Assistant Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services), Dr. Jay Parkinson (CEO of Sherpaa), and Dr. Kenneth Kizer (Director, Institute for Population Health Improvement (IPHI) at the UC Davis Health System).

To review the latest program, please visit [www.preventivemedicine2014.org/meeting-program.html](http://www.preventivemedicine2014.org/meeting-program.html). Laissez les bons temps rouler!

## AsMA Members Quoted in the Jerusalem Post

The International Congress on Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM) took place in early October in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem Post has an article on ICASM, discussing what was covered during the meeting. The article includes quotes from Dr. Melchor Antuñano, the director of the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute in Oklahoma City, OK, and a past President of AsMA, Prof. Anthony Batchelor, President of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine and an AsMA Fellow, Dr. Sally Evans, the head of the UK's Civil Aviation Authority and an Associate Fellow of AsMA, and Dr. Claude Thibeault,

## New Membership Dues Structure

The Executive Committee of AsMA has approved an increase in dues for the first time since 2009. Corporate dues have not been increased since 1998. The new fees will take effect beginning in January 1, 2014, so if you renew before December 31, you can lock in the old rate for another year!

1-Year Active Member:	\$280.00
3-Year Member:	\$780.00
Member/Spouse:	\$500.00 (one journal)
Life Member:	\$5,000.00
Technician:	\$130.00
Resident:	\$165.00
Student:	\$50.00 (online journal only; paper journal \$50 extra)
Emeritus:	\$50.00 (online journal only; paper journal \$50 extra)
Corporate:	\$450.00

medical advisor of the International Air Transport Association and a Past President of AsMA. To read the article, please visit <http://www.jpst.com/Health-and-Science/Medicine-for-the-wild-blue-yonder-329167>.

## News of Members

### LeBlanc Wins Team Award

AsMA member Adrian LeBlanc won an award for work with the USRA's Division of Space Life Sciences (DLSL). LeBlanc was a team member recipient of the Top Space Station Research Award of the Year for the bisphosphonates study results on the second successful countermeasure prescription during the team's 'Preventing Bone Loss in Long-Duration Spaceflight' study. The award was accepted by Thomas Lang, Ph.D., professor of Radiology and Biomedical Imaging at the University of California San Francisco, on behalf of the team. (For more info, see <http://www.dsls.usra.edu/science/awards/>)

### New Members

Creech, Nancy E., R.N., Chicago, IL  
D'Arcy, Joanna, Wg. Cdr., RAF, MC,  
Abingdon, Oxford, UK  
Forrest, Annette E., M.D., Hamilton, Waikato,  
New Zealand  
Gibbs, Martin L., Jacksonville, FL  
Mackay, Alf Viderberg, M.D., Kalmar, Sweden  
Palitto, Angela M., Capt., USAF, MC,  
Beale AFB, CA  
Perry, Christopher M., LCDR, MC, USN,  
Norfolk, VA  
Prestigiacomo, Charles J., M.D., Newark, NJ  
Ramirez, Humberto, M.D., Guatemala City,  
Guatemala  
Reeves, Paul J., Christchurch, Dorset, UK  
Rosas, Odrick R., Ph.D., Vega Alta, PR  
Yamaguchi, Daisuke, Lt. Col., JADF, MC,  
Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan

## In Memoriam

### Thomas Bowen (1932-2013)

By Susan Richardson

On 3 October 2013, Mr. Thomas Bowen passed away following an extended battle with respiratory illness. The high altitude reconnaissance community lost a true champion and mentor. Mr. Bowen entered the U.S. Air Force on 8 Aug 1949 as a life support technician. His first assignment was Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ. He supported B-29 bombers, including the Enola Gay that was assigned to his squadron. He was also assigned to Mountain Home AFB, ID and Plattsburg AFB, NY, supporting B-47s and B-57s. Mr. Bowen's first overseas assignment was with the South Korean Air Force, supporting P-51s. In 1956, he attended Pressure Suit School at Maxwell AFB, AL and disappeared into the "Black World." His high altitude physiological support included all the early CIA pilots. In 1960, he was waiting in Norway to recover the aircraft of U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers, who was shot down over the Soviet Union.

In 1974, as a civil servant, Mr. Bowen returned to the U.S. Air Force's high altitude U-2 reconnaissance program at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ. In 1976, when high altitude military reconnaissance was consolidated under the 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, he moved with the U-2 program to Beale AFB, CA. Mr. Bowen was a highly respected mentor, sharing his experience and knowledge with both life support and physiological training personnel. During his career, he personally trained hundreds of high altitude pilots, reconnaissance



**BOWEN WITH BAUMGARTNER**—Tom Bowen instructing high altitude record breaker, Felix Baumgartner on the Full Pressure Suit.

systems officers, and passengers. He recently trained high altitude jumper, Felix Baumgartner, who went on to break the high altitude free fall record, jumping from a balloon 24 miles above the Earth in 2012. Mr. Bowen retired from his position as Technical Director of the 9th Physiological Support Squadron, Beale AFB, CA, in 2012, and was awarded the Outstanding Civilian Service award for demonstrated significant accomplishments, leadership, unusual competence, and significant impact upon the Air Force mission throughout his career.

In total, Mr. Bowen's career spanned nearly six decades of service and includes 21 years active duty in the United States Air Force, 4 years with the Central Intelligence

Agency in life sciences, and 36 years as Chief of Life Sciences and Technical Director for U-2/TR-1/ER-2/SR-71 high altitude intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (HAISR) programs. He provided technical guidance to Lockheed's Skunk Works and the David Clark Company on aircraft life support systems, full pressure suit (FPS) development, and survival equipment. He has been primary consultant to all U-2 and SR-71 mishaps that involved life support systems. An innovator and forward thinker, he pushed to design mission-specific life support equipment including the seat kit configuration for harsh environments, the automatic deployment system, and the implementation of the zero-zero ejection seat capability for U-2/ER-2 aircraft.

Additionally, Mr. Bowen was instrumental in the development of FPS-specific training programs including high altitude chamber flights, egress training, water survival, and field escape and resistance programs tailored to the HAISR mission. He has ensured the advancement of life support systems for HAISR aircraft for the CIA, USAF, NASA, and international U-2 programs for the United Kingdom and China. In 2006, Tom was honored by the Aerospace Physiology Society with the Fred A. Hitchcock Award for Excellence in Aerospace Physiology.

Mr. Bowen was a true visionary and leader; his legacy of technical support to the DoD Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance programs will never be surpassed.

Check out the improved  
AsMA website!!!  
<http://www.asma.org>

## Nominations Sought for 2014 AsMA Awards

The Awards Committee of the Aerospace Medical Association, which selects the annual winners of special awards, has set a **January 15** deadline for receiving nominations for awards to be presented at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The names of prospective award winners should be submitted as far in advance of the deadline as possible. To view a list of past recipients go to the AsMA website: <http://www.asma.org/asma/media/asma/membership/awardwinners.pdf>. Nominations can be made by any member of AsMA.

### Rules:

1. The nominee must be a current member of the Association by Feb. 1 in the year in which the award may be given, with the sole exception that the Sidney D. Leverett, Jr., Environmental Science Award is open to nonmembers.
2. Employees of a company sponsoring an award are eligible to receive the award. Self-nomination is not allowed. Deceased members may be nominated.
3. Nominations for the Tuttle Award must cite a specific paper printed in *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine*. The award will be given to the first author, with co-authors that are AsMA members receiving co-author recognition.
4. Nominations for the Leverett Environmental Science Award may be awarded for a cited paper printed in *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine*, or can be awarded for activities conducted in support of aerospace systems operations. If awarded for a cited paper in *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine*, the award will be given to the first author, with co-authors who are AsMA members receiving co-author recognition.
5. An individual can only receive one award in any one year. The same individual may receive an award more than once, so long as 5 years have elapsed between the last time that award was won by that same awardee. The exception is the Bauer Award, as this award is only given once to an individual.
6. Nominations are good for 3 years from the original nomination. They may be updated. If substantial material has changed for the same award within those 3-years, a new nomination should be submitted.

7. The form is available on the AsMA website. You may either submit the nomination directly from the website or you may download the nomination form into your computer for e-mailing as a pdf document attachment. Nomination forms sent via e-mail should be addressed to the Awards Committee Chair, Cheryl Lowry, M.D., at [awards@asma.org](mailto:awards@asma.org); and Ms. Gisselle Vargas at AsMA Headquarters ([gvargas@asma.org](mailto:gvargas@asma.org)). If e-mail is not available, you can send a hard copy of the form via normal mail to: Aerospace Medical Association, 320 South Henry St., Alexandria, VA 22314; or fax to the AsMA Home Office: (703) 739-9652. Any auxiliary biographical material in electronic or hard copy **attachments must be limited to 3 typed pages** and will be retained in Association files.

8. Nominations received after **January 15th** will be considered for awards to be presented at the next annual meeting.

### ANNUAL AWARDS (descriptions online)

1. Louis H. Bauer Founders Award
2. Boothby - Edwards Award
3. John Ernsting Award
4. Kent K. Gillingham Award
5. Walter and Sylvia Goldenrath Award
6. Won Chuel Kay Award
7. Joe Kerwin Award
8. Mary T. Klinker Award
9. Sidney D. Leverett, Jr. Environmental Science Award
10. Eric Liljencrantz Award
11. Raymond F. Longacre Award
12. Theodore C. Lyster Award
13. Marie Marvingt Award
14. Harry G. Moseley Award
15. John A. Tamisiea Award
16. Thomas J. and Margaret D. Tredici Award
17. Arnold D. Tuttle Award
18. John Paul Stapp Award
19. Julian E. Ward Memorial Award



## European School of Aviation Medicine

Training courses 2014  
for EASA/FAA - Aero Medical Examiners

AAME class 1                                8-16 March 2014  
Advanced course 23/2

AME class 2                                 6-14 September 2014  
Basic course 24

AME class 1                                 29 November -  
Advanced course 24                        7 December 2014

Venue: Lufthansa Aeromedical Center  
Frankfurt Airport

Application forms and further details under  
[www.flugmed.org](http://www.flugmed.org) or [www.eusam.org](http://www.eusam.org)

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## NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

### Wyle Awarded U.S. Air Force Task Order

Wyle has been awarded another task order to provide analyses of military and commercial developmental semiconductor devices and components for the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, OH. The Defense Technical Information Center's Reliability Information Analysis Center awarded the task order for work with the laboratory's Sensors Directorate, Aerospace Components and Subsystems Division, and the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate's Nanoelectronic Materials Branch. Wyle will provide independent technology assessments on advanced and emerging semiconductor materials. These research and development analyses will help the Air Force to fully measure the capabilities and potential applications of new technologies. The company will collaborate with the National High Reliability Electronics Virtual Center and other device research organizations to forecast emerging electronic technologies and opportunities, assess needs, and perform prequalification studies.

—To read more on this, please visit <http://www.wyle.com/News/Pages/10-04-2013.aspx>.

### Spectrum Aeromed Completes Customization

Spectrum Aeromed announced that they have completed customizing a Pilatus PC-12 with a dual patient system medical interior for Caldwell, ID, based Summit Air Ambulance along with Fargo Jet Center. This is the second medical interior Spectrum Aeromed has completed for Summit Air Ambulance. The customized PC-12 features two transport beds, and fully customized medical interior. The interior includes a custom cabinet for storing the patient loading device and medical bags. The front also features a large storage cabinet for medical equipment and devices. Along the wall are electrical outlets and hook ups for air, oxygen and vacuum systems.

Additionally, Spectrum Aeromed recently launched a new website. The new website is user friendly and populated with downloadable brochures for both fixed wing and rotorcraft interiors. The new site features a "Leadership" section with pictures and bios of key leaders within the company. Customers can search for products by both aircraft model and type. It also features more product visuals to give site visitors a more in depth look into the quality of their air ambulance products and services.

—For more information, please visit <http://spectrum-aeromed.com/spectrum-aeromed-completes-air-ambulance-equipped-pilatus-pc-12-interior-for-summit-air-ambulance/> and <http://spectrum-aeromed.com/spectrum-aeromed-debuts-new-website/>.

### SAA Embarks on Sustainable Fuel Program

South African Airways (SAA) has announced a sustainable alternative fuels or bio-fuel program. This program recognizes that environmental, social, and economic viability must converge for any renewable fuel supply to become feasible and meaningful. When done properly, these new fuels and supply chains will enable South Africa to diversify its energy sources, increase export opportunities, and do so in a manner that is environmentally and socially responsible. SAA and Boeing are working together to develop the first ever sustainable aviation fuel supply chains in Africa. New developments in technology enable conversion of biomass into fuel in a more sustainable manner than previous approaches in the region, and this unlocks options which avoid competition with food and water resources needed for other sectors. Under the climate change policy guidance of the Department of Public Enterprises, SAA has been able to accelerate the Sustainable Alternative Fuel Program, which they hope will help positively shape biofuel efforts in the region.

—Please see the press release at <http://www.flysaa.com/us/en/flyingSAA/News/Sustainable-Alternative-Fuels-in-Southern-Africa.html> for more on this.

### Oregon Aero Employee Receives Safety Award

Oregon Aero announced that Randy Mains, Chief CRM/AMRM Instructor at Oregon Aero, has been honored by the Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS) with the 2013 Jim Charlson Aviation Safety Award. The annual award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the overall enhancement, development or promotion of safety within the air medical transport community. Mains' distinguished helicopter career began as a combat pilot with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. In 1979, he and six other pilots began promoting the concept of using helicopters to save lives during medical emergencies in the United States. In the ensuing years, he helped establish the UCSD Medical Center's Life Flight program, set up a country-wide Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) program in the Sultanate of Oman, and worked as a flight instructor and flight examiner for Abu Dhabi Aviation, where he also wrote the company SOP for a new HEMS contract. He is an impassioned speaker on the subject of HEMS safety who has spoken for professional organizations such as AAMS, the Helicopter Association of Canada and HEMS in Australia. Mains received the award at the AAMS 2013 Air Medical Transport Conference, held in late October in Virginia Beach, VA.

—To see Mains full biography and read the press release, please see <http://www.oregonaero.com/press-releases/aams-honors-randy-mains>.

### InoMedic Featured in NASA Best Places to Work

InoMedic recently received a certificate thanking them for making NASA Best Place to Work in the Federal Government. InoMedic's medical clerks and administrative assistants at Kennedy Space Center's Occupational Health Facility were honored for their work coordinating scheduling for certification and surveillance medical exams for the entire center, maintaining center medical records, greeting and registering patients, and facilitating the smooth running of the clinic. A photo of some of InoMedic's employees can be seen at <http://blogs.nasa.gov/BPTW/>.

—Excerpted from InoMedic's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/IHAMedical>, and NASA's Best Place to Work blog, <http://blogs.nasa.gov/BPTW/>.

### Gentex Features New Headset

Ops-Core Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Gentex Corporation, and a recognized worldwide leader in modular integrated helmet systems for elite defense and security forces, featured its latest innovation, the Ops-Core® Rail Attached Communications (RAC) headset, at this year's DSEI defense and security exhibition in London in mid-September. Awarded Best Communication Product for the Soldier by Soldier Technology at their annual conference this June, the RAC headset is entering full scale production. During the international exhibition, Ops-Core, together with Gentex, also demonstrated their comprehensive line of scalable, open architecture helmet systems.

—For more information, please see <http://www.gentexcorp.com/default.aspx?pa geid=5300>.

### ETC Division Named a Top Company

Environmental Tectonics Corporation's (ETC's) Simulation Division, located in Orlando, FL, developers of the Advanced Disaster Management Simulator (ADMS), was recognized as a Top Simulation and Training Company for 2013 by Military Training Technology magazine, which covers all issues and developments related to the simulation and training industry as it relates to the military. ADMS simulates disasters and incidents in high-definition quality with visualizations and effects. Founded upon over 40 years of simulation technology, ADMS has physics-based effects and artificial intelligence embedded into all training systems, providing

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trainees with a most realistic training experience. ETC's Simulation Division specializes in virtual reality emergency response and disaster management training systems.

—To read the press release, please visit <http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=106827&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1864408&highlight=>.

## NIOSH Study Finds More Cancer in Firefighters

In a new study, researchers from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and colleagues found a combined population of 30,000 firefighters from three large cities had higher rates of several types of cancers, and of all cancers combined, than the U.S. population as a whole. The new findings are generally consistent with the results of several previous, smaller studies. Because the new study had a larger study population followed for a longer period of time, the results strengthen the scientific evidence for a relation between firefighting and cancer, the researchers said. The findings were reported in an article posted on-line on Oct. 14, 2013, by the peer-reviewed journal Occupational and Environmental Medicine. The article is available online at <http://oem.bmj.com/content/early/2013/10/14/oemed-2013-101662.full>. The study analyzed cancers and cancer deaths through 2009 among 29,993 firefighters from the Chicago, Philadelphia, and San Francisco fire departments who were employed since 1950. The study was led by NIOSH in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute and the Department of Public Health Sciences in the University of California at Davis. It was supported in part by funding from the U.S. Fire Administration.

—For more information, please see <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-10-17-13.html>.

## Baxter Launches Innovative Hemostat in the EU

Baxter International, Inc., recently announced the launch of Hemopatch Sealing Hemostat, a novel collagen-based hemostatic device, following CE mark approval in Europe. Hemopatch is a resorbable hemostatic device used for surgical procedures when control of bleeding by pressure, ligature, or conventional procedures is either ineffective or impractical. Hemopatch is a soft, thin, and flexible collagen pad that is designed to allow surgeons control during application to gain hemostasis and firm adherence of the hemostatic pad to the bleeding tissue surface. In preclinical tests, Hemopatch achieved fast and effective hemostasis, reaching 97.5 percent success by fully controlling bleeding at 2 minutes. Significant preclinical testing was conducted to confirm its hemostatic performance, biocompatibility, and safety profile. Baxter plans to support the registration and launch of Hemopatch in other countries in the future.

—To read more about this, please visit [http://www.baxter.com/press\\_room/press\\_releases/2013/10\\_23\\_13\\_hemopatch.html](http://www.baxter.com/press_room/press_releases/2013/10_23_13_hemopatch.html).

## Allianz Partners with Simply Travel Insurance

Allianz Global Assistance recently announced its appointment as the new partner for Brisbane-based online travel insurance company, Simply Travel Insurance. Allianz and Simply Travel are focused on providing customers with outstanding quality travel insurance services. Allianz shares the same customer driven values as Simply Travel Insurance and is honored to be providing a fellow Brisbane-based company with quality travel insurance. Simply Travel was founded by experienced accommodation and travel industry experts who have a deep understanding of travel patterns and insurance.

—Excerpted from the media release at <http://www.allianz-assistance.com.au/corporate/news/australian-media-releases/Simply-travel-insurance-partners-with-allianz-global-assistance.aspx>.

## UTMB Awards Funding to Eight Programs

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) President's Cabinet awarded funds to eight innovative programs developed to strengthen UTMB's patient care, biomedical research, and educational missions. Nine university faculty and staff and three students in the School of Medicine and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences received the awards. The winning programs include healthy cooking classes for uninsured and economically disadvantaged citizens, presentations to local students designed to lower the number of driving accidents related to alcohol or distractions, and a film series that examines how people find meaning during illness and suffering. The President's Cabinet is comprised of nearly 400 members, including community and business leaders from the Houston-Galveston area and UTMB faculty and staff and alumni from across the state and nation.

—To read more about the award winners, please see <http://www.utmb.edu/newsroom/article8933.aspx>

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### Meetings Calendar

**December 10-12, 2013;** Multi-Crew Pilot Licence Symposium; ICAO Headquarters, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. For more info or to register, visit <http://www.icao.int/meetings/mpl>.

**January 23-26, 2014;** Flying Physicians Association Winter Board Meeting (open to all); Cape Coral, FL. Please visit [www.fpads.org](http://www.fpads.org) for details and registration information.

**February 19-22, 2014;** Preventive Medicine 2014 - Annual Meeting of the American College of Preventive Medicine; Hilton New Orleans Riverside, New Orleans, LA. Please visit [www.preventivemedicine2014.org/](http://www.preventivemedicine2014.org/) for meeting details.

**April 1-3, 2014;** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Civil Aerospace Medical Institute (CAMI) colloquium on Postmortem Forensic Toxicology in Aviation; Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center, Oklahoma City, OK. For more information, please visit <http://www.faa.gov/go/toxmeeting>.

**June 3-5, 2014;** AirMed 2014 World Congress; Rome, Italy. For more info, please see the pdf flyer found at [http://www.asma.org/asma/media/asma/pdf-meetings/airmed2014\\_world-congress.pdf](http://www.asma.org/asma/media/asma/pdf-meetings/airmed2014_world-congress.pdf).

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