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# FAA Maintenance(MX) Human Factors Research Program and MX HF Information Resource Website

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## FAA MAINTENANCE(MX) HUMAN FACTORS RESEARCH PROGRAM and MX HF INFORMATION RESOURCE WEBSITE

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It is well known that people are the heart of safe/effective aircraft maintenance. It is becoming increasingly evident that these people (mechanics, trainers, inspectors, crew, etc.) substantially benefit from a solid grounding in human factors principles and practices as a basis for that strong maintenance safety culture.

### FAA Maintenance HF Research Programs

One of the efforts that the FAA has supported to promote this maintenance safety culture is to sponsor maintenance human factors research that will aid the airline industry and the regulators. The current 2007 MX HF research projects and proposed 2008 and beyond research projects will be highlighted in this panel session.

### Emerging New Areas

A few new challenges to aircraft maintenance that will contain major human factors components will be mentioned. They include:

- Globalization of maintenance practices.
- Aircraft being built of composites instead of metal.
- Extensive computerization of aircraft and the NAS.
- Training for new technologies.

### FAA MX HF Contacts

The following people are the primary contacts at FAA for Maintenance Human Factors policy and research issues. They will try to answer your questions or direct you to someone who can.

#### Jay Hiles

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### Maintenance HF Information Resource Website

The FAA has sponsored research in maintenance human factors for many years. The research reports contain a great deal of useful information for the airline industry and regulators. These documents have been housed in a public access web based database for many years. But the computer and software technology has advanced beyond the capabilities of this old database. Last year it was decided that the maintenance documents needed a new home based on new technology. That part of the updating is now taking place. In addition we will be expanding the content of the Maintenance Human Factors website to include other useful information for the airline industry and regulators. The FAA Maintenance Human Factors community will announce when this new resource is available some time this year.