



**European Business Aviation  
Association**

**press release**

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## **EBAA Helps European Commercial Operators Fulfil New SMS Requirements**

**Brussels, Belgium – 5 February 2009** – The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) will host a Safety Management System (SMS) Information Seminar on March 12 in Cologne, Germany. While this seminar is aimed primarily at German operators who are required by national authorities to implement an SMS this year, it is in fact an excellent opportunity for any commercial operator in Europe to receive basic information about SMS, including an overview of the regulations and implementation phases.

Operators will also be introduced to the SMS Toolkit, which has been created by the International Business Aviation Council (IBAC) in cooperation with its Member Associations, including the EBAA.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) requires commercial operators worldwide to have SMS this year, and large and turbo-jet non-commercial operators will need it in November 2010. Safety Management Systems represent a systematic, explicit and comprehensive process for managing risks to safety. A successfully developed and implemented Safety Management System will ensure that safety is a core value in an operation and is integrated into all management systems including operational, maintenance, financial and human resource management.

SMS is a longstanding feature of business aviation industry best practices. “The business aviation community has always been proactive in its efforts to minimise accidents and incidents. In 2002 IBAC and Member Associations introduced the International Standard for Business Aircraft Operations (IS-BAO), which is a code of best practices designed to help corporate flight departments achieve a high level of safety and professionalism. In continuation, today we are assisting commercial flight departments by providing an SMS toolkit, a compilation of guidance materials that should help them with implementation, as required by regulatory authorities,” explains Eric Mandemaker, CEO European Business Aviation Association.

The SMS Toolkit can assist non-commercial fixed and rotary wing aircraft operators, on-demand charter operators and other commercial operators. It will help them to develop and implement Safety Management Systems that meet the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and the regulatory requirements of aviation regulatory authorities.

Along with the seminar in Germany and other planned regional initiatives led by the EBAA, European operators can also learn more about the SMS eLearning Course co-developed by IBAC and FlightSafety International.

To register for the EBAA-hosted SMS Workshop in Cologne Germany, operators should contact:

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For more information about the SMS eLearning Course, operators should visit the IBAC website:  
[www.ibac.org](http://www.ibac.org).

**For more information about SMS, the toolkit and the SMS regulatory framework, please contact Eric Mandemaker at +32 2 766 00 70 or [info@ebaa.org](mailto:info@ebaa.org).**

#### *EBAA*

*The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) was founded in 1977 to defend the interests of business aviation. Today, more than 500 business aviation companies (direct members or members of associate organisations) rely on the EBAA to protect their business interests. It is the only voice to represent business aviation among the European institutions. For more information, visit [www.ebaa.org](http://www.ebaa.org).*