Happy Birthday SAFE Association!

In 2016, the SAFE Association will celebrate 60 years of dedication to education and innovation for the safety and survival of occupants in all modes of transportation. Since 1956, the preservation of human life has always been at the forefront of all our work.

54th Annual SAFE Symposium

The last several months have been filled with planning and preparation for our 54th Annual SAFE Symposium in Dayton, Ohio. I’m certain our attendees, technical program presenters, and speakers will enjoy their time in Dayton this coming October.

We are very fortunate to have the human performance leadership of the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC) at Wright Patterson AFB and SAFE’s Wright Brothers Chapter actively engaged in many aspects of the planning and execution. They are absolutely committed to doing what they can to ensure this year’s symposium and technical program is another resounding success.

The SAFE Symposium is now on the approved OSD lists and SAFE is viewed as a useful forum for technical papers and discussing issues with industry partners. Furthermore, the SAFE Board and Symposium committee are coordinating efforts between Wright Patterson Air Force Base, units, aircraft SPO’s, Human Systems Offices and the SAFE Association.

The Symposium is your opportunity to participate in the presentation and discussion of all of the current research and technologies in SAFE’s fields of interest. Attendees will also be able to examine state-of-the-art displays and hardware in the exhibit area, attend product demonstrations, and be part of a dynamic, professional association. We again look forward to welcoming our attendees to this year’s symposium and to the Dayton area. Spread the word!

Exhibit Space

Exhibitor space reservations opened on April 1. Members of industry are beating the anticipated rush by making their reservations for exhibit space now. In fact, several are reserving additional booth spaces because of the venue. I encourage you to book your exhibit space now as well.

Call for Papers

The Call for Papers is now open. The submission deadline for abstracts is July 25, 2016. Submission guidelines have been mailed to each SAFE member and are available electronically on the SAFE website at www.safeassociation.com under the “Symposium” tab. I’m looking forward to another successful three days of technical presentations from our international community.

Call for SAFE Awards Nominations

The Awards Committee is currently accepting nominations for the annual SAFE Awards. The submission deadline is also July 25, 2016. The nominations booklet has been mailed to each SAFE member and is available electronically on the SAFE website, too. Just click on the “Awards” tab at the top of the page. We all know individuals and groups within our industry that deserves to be recognized for one or more significant accomplishment. Take the time to highlight those individuals and accomplishments.

Thanks to our volunteers and members

For SAFE to be successful, volunteers at the chapter and national level must work together toward a common cause. I am fortunate to have a great team at my side to help SAFE grow and succeed. You, along with our individual and corporate sustaining members, are the reason the association is able to celebrate 60 years of existence and its 54th Annual SAFE Symposium this October in Dayton.

For those attending this year’s symposium, this will again be a reaffirmation of the association’s commitment to the preservation of human life. Thanks to all of you for being members of this great association.

I look forward to seeing you in Dayton.

- Joe Spinosa, 2016 SAFE Association President
Gentex Introduces Argonaut Ground Crew Headset to European Market at SAFE Europe

JSF-based design supports the most extreme noise environments.

Carbondale, PA, April 05, 2016. Gentex Corporation, a global leader in personal protection and situational awareness solutions for defense, emergency response and industrial personnel will introduce its Argonaut™ double hearing protection (DHP) communications headset to the European market at this year’s SAFE Europe Symposium. Based on the design of the ground crew headset Gentex developed for the U.S. F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) program, the Argonaut DHP headset is designed for use in other harsh military and industrial noise fields.

The Argonaut DHP communication headset is a product of Gentex’s recent acquisition, Aegisound, an established provider of products that significantly improve hearing protection, safety and communications in high-noise environments. In addition to the expansion of their arcway product line, the acquisition also increased Gentex’s contribution to the JSF program. Gentex now provides protective headgear and communications products to JSF ground crew, in addition to the helmet system platform and respiratory protection system, on which there will be a technical presentation during the symposium.

“The introduction of the Argonaut DHP communication headset to the European market demonstrates how the addition of Aegisound has strengthened our hearing and communications product line and allowed us to further expand in this category internationally,” said Robert McCoy, vice president, Aircrew Systems, Gentex Corporation. “We’re excited to demonstrate the Argonaut headset at SAFE, and honored to have been provided our expertise during the symposium on the latest in arcway helmet system technology, as demonstrated through our work on the JSF program.”

Product experts from Gentex Corporation will lead the presentation “Protecting the F-35’s Most Valuable Asset,” scheduled on Wednesday, April 13th at 1:30 pm.

Argonaut DHP Headset with Earplugs

The Argonaut DHP headset is appropriate for noise fields up to 130 decibles and features a digital noise canceling microphone, and high-performance earcups with integrated communication earplugs that yield a 32 noise reduction rating (NRR).

Gentex is the leading supplier of high-performance flight equipment for military, law enforcement, and rescue aircrew worldwide. Their comprehensive line of durable and innovative products for fixed and rotary wing aircrew includes: modular, integrated helmet systems; protective visors and spectacles; high-altitude oxygen breathing equipment; communications headsets; and a full line of fixed-wing aircraft; aircrew equipment test sets; and a full suite of accessories. Gentex also offers aircrew flight equipment servicing, fitting, and operations/maintenance training. A global network, with expanding services in the UK, supports the company’s aircrew customers.

SAFE Europe takes place April 11th through the 15th in Old Windsor, U.K. Gentex Corporation is located at stand number 4. Product experts and executives from Gentex will be on hand to meet with customers and media throughout the show. To attend the presentation, submit an RSVP on JSF helmet and respiratory system technology, please visit the SAFE Europe Symposium website. For more information on the Gentex Aircrew portfolio, visit www.gentexcorp.com/aircrew.

About Gentex Corporation

Leveraging a history that spans over 100 years, Gentex is a leading provider of innovative solutions that enhance military and law enforcement performance in harsh environments. Gentex is a leading supplier of hearing protection, respiratory protection, impact protection and communications equipment for military and security applications across the globe.

For more information about Gentex, please visit www.gentexcorp.com.

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SAE International to Develop Human Systems Integration Standard

The SAE International G-45 Human Systems Integration (HSI) Committee has recently been given the opportunity to develop a Department of Defense (DoD) HSI standard to be used by the DoD in contract procurement activities. The Committee is seeking interested participants to help mold this industry standard into an effective tool that will result in the successful integration of our discipline into government programs. The Committee needs participants who are experienced in one or more of the following domains: Habitability, Force Protection and Survivability, Manpower, Personnel, Training, Environment, Safety and Occupational Health, and Human Factors. The Committee’s next meeting for this project is scheduled for May 24-25, 2016 in the Washington DC area. Anyone who is interested in participating in this activity please contact:

Steve Merrin • G-45 Committee Chair 972-344-1103 (work) 214-533-9052 (cell) smerrin@texasr.com
Or Terri Hall • G-45 Vice Chair 770-494-5458 Terri.i.hall@icmco.com

East/West Receives Gold Boeing Performance Excellence Award

RONKONKOMA, New York, April 14, 2016 - East/West Industries, Inc. today announced that it has received a 2015 Boeing Performance Excellence Award. The Recognition Company issues the award annually to suppliers who have achieved superior performance. East/West Industries maintained a Gold composite performance rating for each month of the 12-month performance period, from October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

Boeing has over 13,000 suppliers worldwide. This year, Boeing recognized 530 suppliers who achieved either a Gold or Silver level Boeing Performance Excellence Award. East/West Industries is one of only 107 suppliers to receive the Gold level of recognition.

"Performance excellence is fundamental to the success of both our companies," said East/West President Teresa Ferraro. "We take great pride in knowing that we represent such a small number of suppliers who receive this honor, and we’re proud that our performance standards help meet Boeing’s customer expectations. Performance excellence is fundamental to the success of both our companies. We extend our sincere congratulations to the employees of East/West Industries for demonstrating the dedication to the high performance standards necessary to meet customer expectations and remain competitive in the global economy."

For more information about East/West’s products, please visit www.eastwestindustries.com.

About East/West Industries

East/West Industries, Inc. a woman-owned, small business located in Ronkonkoma, New York (on Long Island), and is a recognized leader in the design and manufacture of lifesaving aerospace equipment. Founded in 1968, East/West Industries is celebrating 47 years of saving lives.

For more information, contact: Joe Spinosa, Vice President, Business Development, East/West, Industries, Inc. Office 631-981-5900 • Cell 631-768-1577 • jspinosa@eastwestindustries.com

Essex Industries PBE Selected by EL AL

Saint Louis, Missouri - Essex Industries is pleased to announce that their PBE, Protective Breathing Equipment, has been selected by EL AL for use on new 787 aircraft.

The Essex PBE is designed to provide crewmembers with ocular, head and respiratory protection during emergency conditions, a full 15 minutes of protection is provided to the wearer in case of prolonged exposure to smoke, heat or toxic fumes. The PBE is designed to protect the wearer’s body from smoke, heat and toxic fumes in emergency conditions in an aircraft cabin. A minimum of 15 minutes of protection is provided to the wearer, as aviator’s grade oxygen is released into the unit. Its unique design provides 270° of visibility and eliminates the need for an oral/nasal mask so that crewmembers can communicate while wearing the unit. The PBE holds FAA TSO-C161 and TSO-C199 approvals as well as CAA, EASA, CAAC and ANAC approvals. Recognized for their safety design, Essex PBE units are installed in the majority of U.S. airlines and a number of carriers throughout the world.

Established in 1948 as the national airline of Israel, EL AL has become a prestigious international carrier, ranked by IATA as one of the most efficient airlines in the world. EL AL operates an all-Boeing fleet of aircraft, flying cargo and over 4 million passengers a year to Europe, North America, Africa and the Near East from its main base in Ben Gurion International Airport.

Founded in 1947, Essex Industries is a leading supplier to the Aerospace and Defense market, providing platform controls, aircraft components, emergency breathing equipment and liquid oxygen systems for life support and ground support systems.

For More Information Contact:
Robert Geisz, Global Account Executive Essex Industries, Inc. • 314.832.4500 ext. 8782 • rgeisz@essexind.com

Essex Industries PBE Selected by Frontier Airlines

Saint Louis, Missouri - Essex Industries is pleased to announce that their PBE, Protective Breathing Equipment, has been selected by Frontier Airlines for use on all their Airbus A320 and A321 aircraft.

The Essex PBE is designed to provide crewmembers with ocular, head and respiratory protection during emergency conditions in an aircraft cab. A minimum of 15 minutes of protection is provided to the wearer, as aviator’s grade oxygen is released into the unit. Its unique design provides 270° of visibility and eliminates the need for a nasal mask so that crewmembers can communicate while wearing the unit. The PBE holds FAA TSO-C161 and TSO-C199 approvals as well as CAA, EASA, CAAC and ANAC approvals. Recognized for their safety design, Essex PBE units are installed in the majority of U.S. airlines and a number of carriers throughout the world.

Headquartered in Denver, Frontier Airlines operates about 275 flights daily as they serve more than 40 cities in the United States, Mexico and Jamaica. They were named the industry’s most fuel-efficient airline by The International Council on Clean Transportation (ICT) as a result of superior technology and operational efficiency. Frontier Airlines also received the Federal Aviation Administration’s 2014 Diamond Award for Safety Excellence.

Founded in 1974, Essex Industries is a leading supplier to the Aerospace and Defense market, providing platform controls, aircraft components, emergency breathing equipment and liquid oxygen systems for life support and ground support systems.

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