A Human Factors Approach to Bridging Systems and Introducing New Technologies

Barbara G. Kanki, Ph.D.
NASA Ames Research Center
Moffett Field, CA 94035
barbara.g.kanki@nasa.gov
Agenda

• Human Factors to Human Systems
• Application of Human Factors to System-level Changes
  – NextGen Changes in the Airspace System
  – Focus on Collaborative Work
  – New Technologies
• Approach to Bridging Systems
  – Focus on Roles and Responsibilities
  – Identifying Points of Collaboration
  – Developing an Assessment Tool
Human Factors to Human Systems

Traditional Human Factors
- INDIVIDUAL: perception, cognition, knowledge and skills
- TEAM/ORGANIZATIONAL: leadership, communication, coordination, skill sets
- OPERATIONAL: off-nominal conditions, weather, traffic
- TECHNOLOGIES: Increased automation, changes in displays, information systems

Human Systems (Multiple Organizations)
- ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES: Pilots, Air Traffic Control (ATC), Flight Operations Center (FOC)
Application of Human Factors to System-level Changes

FAA’s goal for the NextGen Flight Deck Human Factors program is to reduce risks associated with human performance while ensuring system safety and supporting NextGen efficiency and capacity goals.

- Research on specific NextGen applications and procedures (e.g., trajectory based operations (TBO), collaborative air traffic management)
- Research on specific NextGen technologies (e.g., automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast (ADS-B), DataComm, Network enabled weather)
- Research on human interaction with NexGen applications and technologies (e.g., communication, automation/roles & responsibilities, risk & error management, decision making)
Pilot/ATC/FOC Communication & Coordination Task

• Research Team
  – Barbara G. Kanki, Ph.D., NASA ARC
  – Thomas L. Seamster, Ph.D., Cognitive & Human Factors
  – Eric Chevalley, Ph.D., San Jose State Univ. Fndn.

• Subject Matter Experts
  – Operators: Pilots, Dispatchers,
  – FAA: Air Traffic Controllers, Air Traffic Management
  – NextGen Stakeholders

• Other NextGen Researchers
  – E.g., FAA HF Area 5: Roles and Responsibilities
  – Automation, TBO Working Groups
NextGen Changes in the Airspace System: Focus on Collaborative Work

**EN ROUTE SECTOR TEAM**
- Radar flight data
- Radar coordination and handoff
- Radar associate
- Radar

**TOWER TEAM**
- Flight data
- Tower supervisor
- Clearance delivery
- Ground control
- Cab coordinator
- Local control

**TRACON TEAM**
- Arrival/Departure data
- Arrival Control
- Departure Control
- Handoff Control
- Satellite Control
- Traffic Management Unit

**Information Sources**
- Training materials, observations, SMEs
- Guidance documents: JO 7110.65T, ICAO, Eurocontrol guidance
- Initiatives: Airspace redesign, traffic mgmt, time-based metering, ground delay program
- Technologies: En Route automation, satellite-based surveillance
NextGen Changes in the Airspace System: Focus on Collaborative Work

Electronic Flight Bag Example

• Distraction Management
  – EFB usage by the non-flying pilot during critical phases (e.g., Taxi, Climb, Descent)

• Workload Management
  – Use of SEND and SYNC functions to promote crew coordination and efficiency
  – Coordination and sequence of FMS and EFB usage by crewmembers

Information Sources

Guidance documents Part 61, 91, 121, 135, Advisory Circulars (e.g., CRM), Aeronautical Information Manual

Company policy/procedures, operating documents, AQP task analysis, etc

Current technologies: ADS-B, CDTI, EFB, Data Link
NextGen Changes in the Airspace System: New Technologies

AGD ADS-B Guidance Display

Class 3 EFB (Electronic Flight Bag)
Keeping the System Perspective

... focusing on collaborative functions
Focus on Roles and Responsibilities

• In the current system:
  • Who does what and with what level of authority?
  • How are responsibilities governed?
  • How do roles coordinate; by what means?
  • Are responsibilities shared within/across teams?

• When roles change:
  • What are the implications to safety/risk?
  • What are the information requirements?
  • What are the implications for training and metrics?
  • How can cost/benefits be assessed?
Approach to Bridging Systems

1. Identify potential NextGen transition points for roles and responsibilities of pilots, ATC, FOC and automated systems:
   - Comprehensively map *current* pilot/ATC/FOC tasks and collaboration points
   - Support this activity through Literature and State-of-the-Practice Reviews, Subject Matter Experts, etc.

2. On the basis of current operations, develop a **Collaboration Matrix** to identify and describe pilot/ATC/FOC coordination tasks and procedures that anticipate NextGen changes.
Identifying Points of Collaboration

3. Identify generic points of collaboration for normal and key off-normal operations (pilot-ATC, pilot-FOC, ATC-FOC) by Phase of Flight

- Include key variables such as: From/to, function, information transferred, media
- On the basis of task analyses for each role (as per operator manuals and FAA guidance documents)

Based on FAA documents, operator documents, AQP task analyses, 100 hours of interviews with ATC SMEs, FOC site visits, frequency/criticality ratings
## Collaboration Matrix Sample

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase of Flight</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>System</th>
<th>FROM</th>
<th>TO</th>
<th>CREW Position</th>
<th>ATC Facility</th>
<th>ATC Position</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-4.00</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>Initial Routing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-2.00</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Input</td>
<td>MEL and other constraints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-2.00</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td>ATC</td>
<td>Tower</td>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>Delivery</td>
<td>Send</td>
<td>Requested Routing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditional</td>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.45</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>CREW</td>
<td>CAPT &amp; FO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Flight Plan changes (If change required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.55</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>CREW</td>
<td>CAPT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Request</td>
<td>Flight Plan, route, weather, fuel, maintenance, NOTAMS etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditional</td>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.40</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tower</td>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>Send</td>
<td>Flight Plan update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.40</td>
<td>PAPER  (or COMP)</td>
<td>CREW</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Signs</td>
<td>Flight Plan concurrence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditional</td>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.35</td>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>CREW</td>
<td>Datalink</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Initialize</td>
<td>Datalink initialization (If required equipage)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-flight</td>
<td>-0.30</td>
<td>ACARS</td>
<td>AOC</td>
<td>CREW</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Send</td>
<td>ACARS flight data (Flight Plan + weight + ATIS code + rwy perf, release verif, maintenance release)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Developing an Assessment Tool

Collaborative Systems Assessment Template (CSAT) a hierarchical structure starting with:

- **Collaborative Functions** in the airspace system
  - **Collaborative Procedures** (e.g., TBO)
    - **Responsibilities**: Flightdeck, ATC, FOC
    - **Relevant Technologies**: Flightdeck, ATC, FOC
    - **Human Factors Considerations and Measures**: Workload, SA, number of ATC communications, interventions
    - **Evaluation Scenarios**: based on current baselines, existing research, critical off-nominal conditions
Current Status and Final Thoughts

• Application in work: Trajectory-based operations (e.g., Flight Deck-based Merging and Spacing)

• Transition issues to keep in mind
  – Implementation of multiple changes in a continuous and overlapping timeline
  – Existence of hybrid systems (some old, some new) that may only be implemented in some locations, under some conditions: A/C differences, airport/ATC capability differences
Thank You!