



Airport Safety Week: Day 4 Toolbox Talk – Safety Management Systems and CASA Aerodrome Safety Visiting Pilot Contact Card

A Safety Management System (SMS) is a comprehensive management system designed to manage safety elements in the workplace. It includes policy, objectives, plans, procedures, organization, responsibilities, and other measures. The SMS is used in industries that manage significant safety risks, including aviation.

While the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) requires aerodromes to have an SMS in place, all organization's that operate airside should have an SMS

The international Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) describe safety management as 'organised common sense'. An SMS is nothing but a systematic approach to managing safety, it is tailored to the size and complexity of the organisation and is totally scalable.

An SMS provides a systematic way to identify hazards and control risks while maintaining assurance that these risk controls are effective. As with all management systems, a safety management system provides for goal setting, planning, and measuring performance. A safety management system is woven into the fabric of an organization. It becomes part of the culture; the way people do their jobs.

There is an implied moral obligation placed on an employer to ensure that work activities and the place of work to be safe, there are legislative requirements defined in just about every jurisdiction on how this is to be achieved and there is a substantial body of research which shows that effective safety management (which is the reduction of risk in the workplace) can reduce the financial exposure of an organisation by reducing direct and indirect costs associated with accident and incidents.

A CASA-defined SMS has structure, with 15 key elements sitting under four components:

1. Safety Policy/Objectives.
2. Safety Risk Management.
3. Safety Assurance; and
4. Safety Promotion.

The most effective SMS's are those that are relatively simple and will complement and support good management, engineering and human factor practices.



Aerodrome Safety Visiting Pilot Identification Card

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and the AAA have teamed up to produce a Visitor Pilot contact card for pilots to use, allowing ARO's to have an easy means of contacting pilots with a safety issue with their aircraft (owned or hired).

The card has space available for pilots to add their name and contact number and can be left in the window of the aircraft, making it easier for ARO's to contact them.

The Aerodrome Safety Visiting Pilot Identification Card can be downloaded [here](#).

Additional Resources

Setting up your Safety Management System	https://www.casa.gov.au/standard-page/setting-safety-management-system
SMS Workbook:	https://www.casa.gov.au/education/standard-page/sms-resource-kit
Safety Management Systems for RPAS	https://www.casa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-12/safety-management-systems-book-9-safety-management-systems-for-rpas.pdf
Planning your SMS – Scaling for size and complexity	https://www.casa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-10/safety-management-systems-book-7-scaling-for-size-complexity.pdf
Safety Management Systems Basics	https://www.casa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2

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AIRPORT SAFETY WEEK

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[021-06/safety-management-systems-book-1-safety-management-system-basics.pdf](#)