Letter to Aviation Professional Groups

Survey Distribution

A cross-sectional exploratory study on voluntary reporting of professional groups in U.S. commercial aviation

Dear Aviation Professional,

I am conducting a study to gain a better understanding of voluntary safety reporting in U.S. commercial aviation. A survey has been developed with the goal of collecting information regarding the reasons that would encourage or discourage voluntary reporting.

The study attempts to explore three research questions:

1. What primary factors contribute to voluntary reporting of hazards and incidents among four frontline aviation professional groups: pilots, dispatchers, mechanics and air traffic controllers?
2. What secondary factors contribute voluntary reporting of hazards and incidents among employee groups (technology access, time availability, previous experience, etc.)?
3. To what extent does just culture influence voluntary reporting of hazards and incidents? Just culture is defined as the trusting and non-punitive climate necessary for the reporting of honest mistakes.

Although ASAP is an important component of modern-day safety management systems, little research has been done to explore and understand motivational factors for voluntary reporting. This study is being conducted as part of a PhD research dissertation being undertaken by the researcher named below at the University of North Dakota.

The involvement of interested participants in this survey will consist of:

- answering 5 demographic questions,
- answering 34 short multiple-choice questions, and
- providing an opportunity to make comments.

The total time estimated to complete the survey is 15 minutes.

The online survey is completely anonymous, and no participant details or data will be recorded. Neither the researcher nor UND are representing any institution, company, or aviation regulator, and will not report any data to entities other than the dissertation committee involved with the study. Participants will be provided this assurance through an informed consent statement at the beginning of the survey.

If you require more information regarding the study, I can be contacted at james.e.norman@und.edu. You can register for the survey at the following link: https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_00as3U00JRTnT3E

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