

ESTABLISHMENT: The Airman-to-Airman Safety Advisory Council was created in 2009 as an initiative by the Air Force Chief of Safety to increase and evaluate safety communication efforts with Airmen ages 17-26.

PURPOSE: To advance the effective communication with the target audience of Airman 17-26 years old through peer-to-peer efforts as well as to provide commanders and safety offices at all levels with an additional tool to enhance Air Force mishap prevention and reduction. Studies have shown, repeatedly, that efforts of this nature work best to begin to affect a mindset change.

BACKGROUND: Safety data showed Airmen 17-26 years old comprise a disproportionate number of off-duty, off-base mishaps, indicating a need to evaluate and enhance communication efforts with this high-risk age group. A2A offers a peer-to-peer communication opportunity to reach this demographic. These Airmen have a compelling safety message and a strong desire to help their peers learn from their mistakes and experiences.



Background/Way Forward FY16



“Reaching the 17-26 year old Airmen is most successful when the message is delivered peer-to-peer. A2A is an established and effective tool to help you do just that. Enhance your mishap prevention program with an A2A representative at your installation..”

—Bill Parsons
Air Force Chief of Occupational Safety

Safety Advisory Council



HQ Air Force Safety Center
9700 G Avenue SE
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5670

Email: hqafsec.pa@us.af.mil

LESSONS LEARNED: Based on feedback from members from 2012-present, small groups are best for conveying a safety message to the target audience. Videos are a good method of communicating personal stories, where an A2A representative is not located, when used by safety professionals during their briefings.

WAY FORWARD: A2A is an easily implemented program with a “big bang for the buck.”

A. Each Wing Safety/Occupational Safety office requests nominations from all Wing groups/squadrons/units of Airmen ages 17-26 who have experienced a mishap (sample nomination solicitation letter will be provided). Length of A2A representation to be determined by safety office; to date program has had one-year term. (Approximate time needed: 2 hours)

1. Group/Unit/Squadron commander must provide an endorsement to nomination
2. Mishap can involve the Airman directly or close friend or family member
3. Mishap had an impact on Airman’s safety perspective; e.g., lesson learned changed Airman’s behavior
4. Each nomination is reviewed by Wing Safety Office

ROI: Peer-to-peer communication to share personal accounts of mishap experiences providing commanders and safety offices an additional tool to enhance Air Force mishap prevention and reduction.

B. Airmen are vetted for willingness to brief message in a variety of venues. (Approximate time needed: 10 minutes per nominated Airman)

1. Call each prospective Airman and ask:
 - i. Are you interested/willing to tell your mishap story publicly?
 - ii. What is the lesson/take-away you learned from this experience? (The answer to this question will tell if the lesson learned is a change in behavior or don’t get caught.)
 - iii. Will your duty schedule permit time away for briefings?

C. Selection is made – not limited to one Airman (Approximate time: 1 hour)

1. Selection letter is sent to Airman’s commander (sample provided)

D. Safety office program representative meets with Airman (Approximate time: variable)

1. Determine if Airman needs assistance in telling story (practice briefing)

E. Wing Safety office works with local Public Affairs office to promote Airman’s story through multi-media, e.g., video, interview, Wing Facebook page, etc. (Approximate time: variable)

F. Wing Safety office provides venues to Airman (e.g., FTAC safety brief; all-level commander’s calls; Command Chief briefings; Resiliency Day briefing)

G. Crosstell with Wings that do not have a local A2A representative

H. AFSEC/SEG prior A2A program manager available to help establish program at base-level

I. Cost to implement program: \$0
Time investment: initial set-up approximately 3-4 hours

“A2A provides an opportunity for a peer-to-peer exchange of information of near miss and actual incidents that affected the lives of our Airmen. This communication tool is a cornerstone of our commitment to mishap prevention and directly supports our Safety Management System under the Promotion and Education pillar.”

—Benjamin Howard
Safety and Occupational Health Specialist

