

## **Thomas E. Haueter**

Mr. Haueter is President of Thomas E. Haueter & Associates. He is an independent aviation safety consultant and accident investigator providing services as a safety advisor for a large charter jet operator, technical expert for a major aircraft manufacturer, and a technical advisor to international air carriers and satellite data services providers. On several occasions, he has appeared as a factual or expert witness in arbitration hearings.

In June 2012, Mr. Haueter retired as the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Director of the Office of Aviation Safety, employed by the National Transportation Safety Board. During his career at the NTSB, Mr. Haueter served as Deputy Director and Chief of the Major Investigations Division, an Airworthiness Investigator, an Investigator-in-Charge (IIC) of domestic aviation accidents, and as the U.S. Accredited Representative for foreign aviation accidents. As Director of the Office of Aviation Safety, he was responsible for all domestic aviation accident investigations and the NTSB support of major foreign aviation accidents. He was the IIC for the investigation of the USAir flight 427 accident that resulted in the redesign of the rudder system on all Boeing 737s. He was the U.S. Accredited Representative on the accident involving a COPA Airlines Boeing 737. He was the IIC on the accident involving an Atlantic Southeast Airlines at Brunswick, Georgia, that claimed the life of Senator John Tower and for the midair collision at Philadelphia that claimed the life of Senator Heinz. He was the lead NTSB investigator assisting the U.S. Air Force in the investigation of the CT-43A that crashed near Dubrovnik, Croatia, killing then Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and 22 others. Additionally, Mr. Haueter was an advisor to the space shuttle Columbia Accident Investigation Board. As delegated by the NTSB Board, while Director of the Office of Aviation Safety, Mr. Haueter determined the probable cause of approximately 1,300 aviation accidents and incidents annually.

Prior to joining the Safety Board, he worked at Tracor Incorporated as a program manager for research and development. He was previously employed by Telcom Incorporated as an engineer in the design and application of composite aircraft structures and assessments of emerging technologies. He also was a structures engineer in gas turbine engine design at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft.

His educational background includes an MBA in Operations Research and International Business from George Mason University, and a BS in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue University. He is a guest lecturer at Georgia Tech and Purdue University. He holds a commercial pilot's license with multi-engine and instrument ratings, regularly flies a 1943 Stearman airplane that he restored, and is an active aircraft builder/restorer.

Awards include: 2012 Purdue University Outstanding Aerospace Engineer, Presidential Rank Award, NTSB Chairman's Award, and the Joseph Nall Award.