

29 SEP 2011

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### (U)AVIATION SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM (ASAP) BETA TEST AAR 11 JUL 11 – 31 AUG 11.

BLUFF: The initial beta test was successful in exposing Army aviation to ASAP and allowed for changes to be implemented that will assist in the FY12 Operational Test. Unit participation was considered adequate for a new program. The unit ASOs provided great feedback on setup and operation of the program. Due to the limited data base population, the full capabilities of the analysis portion of the program could not be realized. A larger pool of data in a test system or would be beneficial in detailing the positive aspects of the program.

1. GENERAL. The initial beta test of the Army's ASAP program was conducted from 25 Jul – 31 Aug 11. BRZ-Inc was the contractor conducting the program. BRZ-Inc also administers the Navy's ASAP program. The beta test, with a Fort Rucker unit, was an unscheduled add-on to the FY 11 ASAP budget due to the availability of DSOC funding brought on when the individual working the contractor position quit mid-term in his contract. His remaining salary was used to fund the local beta test with 1-223 Avn. The units selected for the test were A Co. and B Co. 1-223 Avn (CH-47s) working out of Knox AHP. Use of the CH-47 platform allowed for maximum enlisted crewmember participation.

2. PURPOSE. The purpose of the beta test was to review the program specifics and to modify ASAP for Army Aviation use and the future FY12 Operational Test (JAN-JUN 2012).

3. TIMELINE. Initial discussion on the possible conduct of a beta test occurred in late Mar 11. The statement of work was submitted in early June. The identification of a potential unit (1-223<sup>rd</sup>) and initial concept briefing to the 110 AB was conducted in late June. Tasking to the 1-223<sup>rd</sup> occurred on 07 JUL 11. Battalion and company level briefs to the commanders were completed in mid July. Briefs to the participating units by the BRZ contractors were completed 20 – 21 JUL with the test starting on 25 JUL. Beta testing was completed on 31 Aug 11.

4. IMPLEMENTATION. The Army ASAP collection mechanism runs through a contractor sponsored website in which aviation personnel log in and are guided through a series of web pages designed to collect events that occurred before, during or after their aviation mission. As such, the ASAP was briefed to unit personnel to be completed as part of the post mission de-brief. The two CH-47 units, depending on phase of training for the various Chinook courses, had approximately 20 scheduled aircraft launches per day. Maximum participation could have

generated approximately 100 inputs per week for the five week test period (2 crews per aircraft training flight).

## 5. CHALLENGES.

a. ASAP is a web based data collection and reporting system that, through analysis, provides actionable information about reported errors. As a beta test, there was no initial data base established to draw information for analysis. The smaller data base tends to make specific analysis less accurate. The five week test had the potential to have over 500 inputs into the data base. 151 entries were received. The use of the program was not mandated but highly encouraged. 30% participation represents a low end number for participation.

b. As a new program, unit personnel only knew what was briefed to them about the program and the potential benefits. Response and support for the program would be better enabled if the program was on a larger scale.

c. The ability to gain access to a website on the Army computers was initially inhibited. Access to the ASAP website is through the internet (.com website). The goal was to place the access on the Aviation Resource Training System (ARTS) used by Fort Rucker trainers. This would have allowed easier access for aircrews to go directly to the ASAP reporting site from their ARTS login. This could not be accomplished in the time allotted so a work around was accomplished by the unit ASOs. This may have inhibited some personnel from using the program. On the plus side, access could be gained from any internet ready computer (including from home), which would allow for late entries.

## 6. LESSONS LEARNED.

a. Initial briefs to the units were presentation only. Hands on for each participant would better familiarize the personnel with the input procedures and expectations of the program.

b. The ASAP administrators (unit ASOs) need to be fully trained on the duties of reviewing submitted reports as well as the full range of products the system produces. This training should be hands on and conducted prior to starting the operational test.

c. A written input sheet is needed as an alternate to web access to facilitate remote collection or as an alternate when internet access is unavailable. Smart phone applications should be a future consideration.

d. Command support is necessary for maximum benefit.

## 7. SUMMARY OF ASAP AAR COMMENTS FROM THE BETA TEST UNIT:

a. The unit ASOs stated this program may be more important at Ft. Rucker – not as important in the field but it would be beneficial down range because of the multiple facets and locations that exist in theater.

b. A hard copy needed to be available for input as an alternate when internet access is unavailable.

c. Feedback from unit personnel indicated a need for more in-depth maintenance issues. Identifying, tracking system issues such as hydraulic, transmission, etc.

d. The challenge was getting the crews to login, not necessarily the time it takes to complete the input. If they took the time to login then they would take the time to complete the action.

e. Login issue: An easier user name and password was necessary – maybe unit ID and unit call sign.

f. An auto populate feature for an AAAR worksheet would be beneficial as well as access to an OHR form feature.

g. Open – Pending – Closed: The terms did not match the meaning as perceived by the ASO.

h. Auto risk levels - during the review process the ability to manually input risk level was needed.

i. Command overview – recommend a pop up box for comments if an individual sects less than neutral.

j. Sort function of Report List – Add ability to have number of days, ie 30, 60, etc vs the months. This allows the ASO to look back 60 days vs calendar months.

k. During sort function include the ability to bore down further into the page vs having to escape back to main page and further refine your initial look.

l. Eliminate the groups the crewmembers don't need.

m. On-site training with a unit should include an initial walk thru/demo with each participant so everyone knows how to do it. Same concept with the ASO/ASAP coordinators.

LTC PRATHER 255-3003

ENCL: CTC Army ASAP 22 AUG Mid Term Report

CTC ASAP Beta Test Final Report (Draft)