The Airworthiness Coordination and Policy Agency (ACPA) is a tri-service agency within the Defence Aviation Safety Authority (DASA) that represents the Defence Aviation Authority on matters concerning Defence aviation safety management.

In this role, ACPA is responsible for the development of aviation safety policy to enhance the combat capability of Defence air power. This includes ensuring its relevance to future aviation systems and civil aviation practices, and that it meets international best practice requirements for aviation safety management.

ACPA is also responsible for the coordination and management of the Defence Aviation Safety Program (DASP) through a compliance-assurance process, including Airworthiness Boards (AwBs), aviation safety compliance audits and the sponsorship of Defence aviation safety regulations.

The Director Airworthiness Coordination and Policy Agency (DACPA) is authorised to interpret aviation safety regulations and provide authoritative advice on Defence aviation safety management.

ACPA consists of five functional areas:

• Aviation In-Service Review facilitates the conduct of independent reviews of aviation safety (Airworthiness Boards) for in-service ADF Aircraft and aviation systems.

• Project Review is responsible for aviation safety assurance of aircraft and aviation systems in major development normally under the management of a formal project. This includes provision of advice and training, management of initial aviation safety instrument, facilitation of Airworthiness Boards and management of the Defence Register.


• Safety Assurance is responsible for initial assessment, oversight and enforcement of military air operators, aerodrome operators and air navigation service providers, production of the Defence Aviation Safety Health Assessment (DASHA), and provision of advice regarding the carriage of personnel and/or material in non-ADF aircraft.

• Airworthiness Coordination is responsible for the management of ACPA planning, governance and business support functions. Key roles include coordination of DASP strategic planning and implementation activities, management of the ACPA business plan, coordination of safety promotion activities including education and training, management of ACPA communication and engagement programs and support to the Defence Aviation Safety Council.

ACPA sponsors the Defence Aviation Safety Assurance Manual (DASAMAN), which is aligned with the Defence Aviation Safety Regulations (DASR) and articulates the activities that assure aviation safety. It is an essential and valuable reference in understanding the assurance of Defence Aviation safety. The DASMAN can be found here: http://www.defence.gov.au/dasp/docs/manuals/dasa-manual/dasaman-defenceaviationsafetyassurancemanualdecember2017.pdf.