

Willful Blindness and Safety Drift- Confronting the Constructed Reality of Risk

Event Details

This session explores how aviation safety cultures, though well-intended, often erode over time due to natural human behaviors like safety drift and organizational silence. Drawing on the work of Dr. Jay Allen, Dr. James Reason, and Margaret Heffernan, the presentation examines how willful blindness and constructed perceptions of safety allow risk to go unchallenged. Participants will learn how leadership presence—particularly through tools like adapted Gemba walks and teammate safety empowerment—can counteract these cultural vulnerabilities, promote psychological safety, and sustain an informed and resilient safety culture. Practical strategies will be provided to help leaders engage proactively and foster transparent communication throughout their organizations.

Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 09:45 EDT
Georgia World Congress Center
285 Andrew Young Blvd NW, Atlanta,
GA
Room B402
Atlanta, GA



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Room B402 of the Georgia World Congress
Center in Atlanta, GA

VERTICON 2026 Foundation Industry Presentations

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A message from the National FAASafety Team Manager

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