

Federal Aviation Administration  
Air Transportation  
**Centers of Excellence**



Informational Meeting

May 6, 2003  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City  
Arlington, VA

**Patricia Watts, Ph.D.**  
FAA COE Program Director



- Office of Aviation Research -



# Agenda

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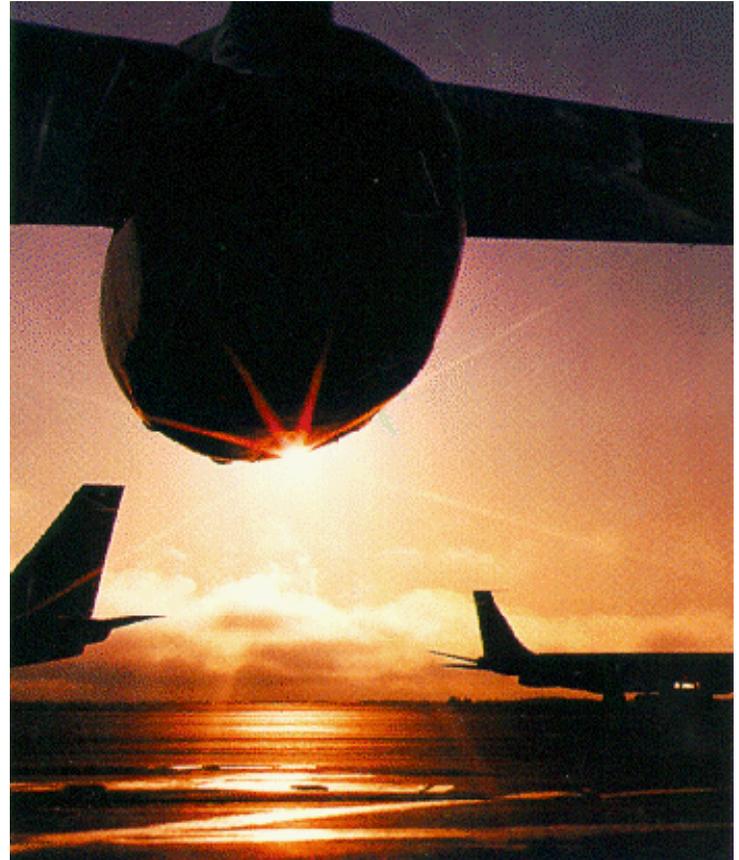
- **Partnership Goals**
- **COE Locations**
- **Background**
- **Competitive Process**
- **Selection**
- **COE Support Team**
- **Funding Authorities**
- **Funding Levels**
- **Potential Centers**
- **Potential Sponsors**



# Partnership Goals

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- To create a *world class consortium* and network ready as needed to enhance the safety, security, and efficiency of the national airspace system
- To augment internal government resources and leverage funds
- To advance U.S. aviation technology and expertise





# Centers of Excellence Core Locations

## Center of Excellence - Operations Research

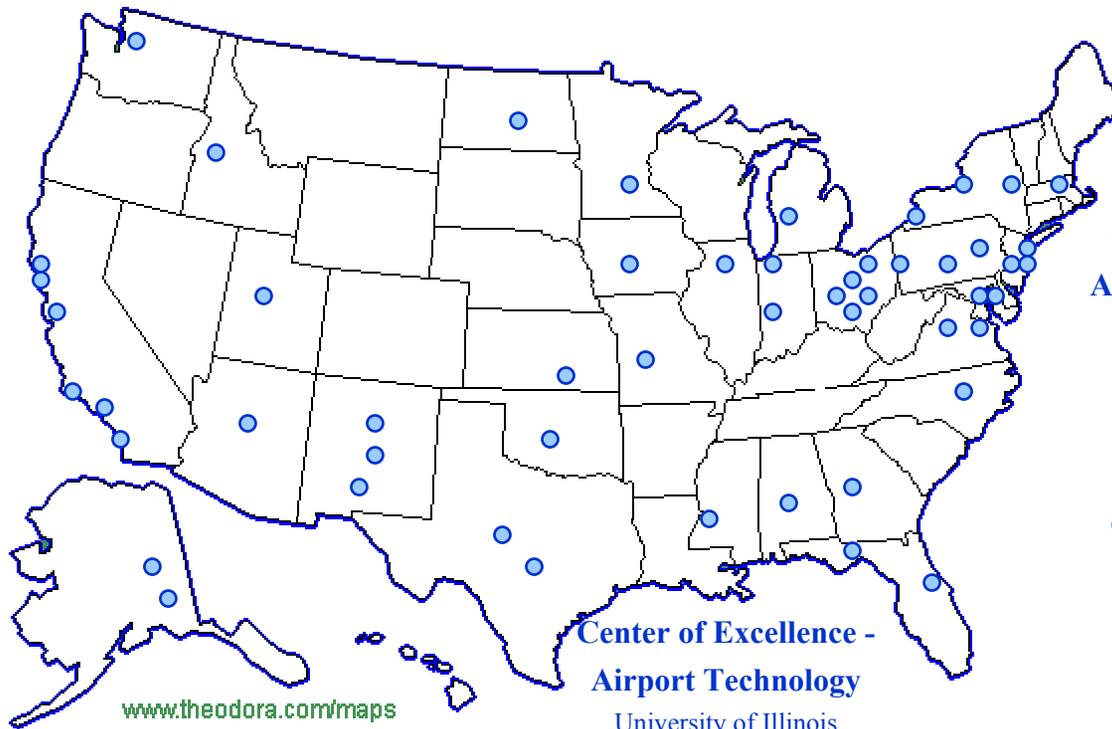
University of California –  
Berkeley

Massachusetts Institute of  
Technology

University of Maryland

Virginia Polytechnic Institute

George Mason University



## Center of Excellence - Airworthiness Assurance

The Ohio State University

Iowa State University

Phase I Leads

## Center of Excellence - General Aviation

Embry Riddle Aeronautical  
University

Florida A&M University

University of North Dakota

Wichita State University

University of Alaska

## Center of Excellence - Airport Technology

University of Illinois

Northwestern University

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical  
University

North Carolina A&T



# Background

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- **Enabling Legislation – 1990 (PL 101-508)**
  - **Provides Selection Criteria**
  - **Provides Authority to Conduct**
    - **Research**
    - **Education**
    - **Training – MS Degree and Seminar Series, Distance Ed, Flight Instructor**
- **National Network**
  - **Academic and Industry Leaders**
  - **Special Awards – DOT and FAA COE Students of the Yr.**
  - **Outreach – NCA&T; COE/ACE Camps: FAMU, Tuskegee, Alaska, ISU, Salt Lake City – FAA**



# Competitive Process

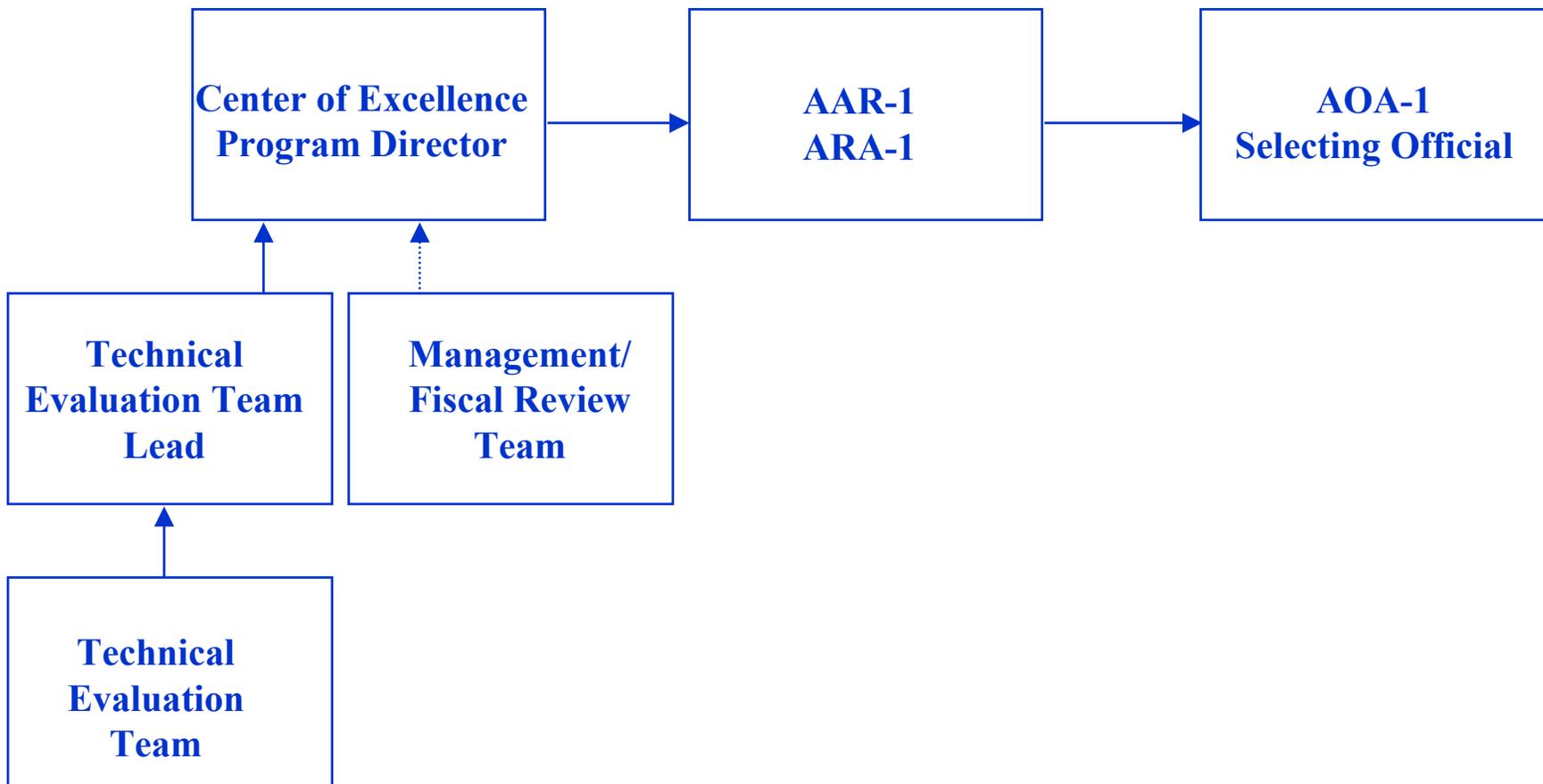
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- **PRESOLICITATION**
  - Internal needs survey
  - Informational meeting
  - Comment period
- **SOLICITATION**
- **PROPOSAL SUBMISSION**
  - Technical evaluation/management & fiscal review
  - Site visits
  - Selection
- **ANNOUNCEMENT**
- **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**
  - Grants
  - Contracts
- **ADMINISTRATION**

COEs may be established through a competitive process or Congressional direction



# Selection





# COE Support Team

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**FAA COE Program Director / Grants Officer**  
**FAA Sponsoring Organization**

**FAA/University**  
**Legal – Contracts – Financial Rep.**  
**(\$160M IDIQ Authority)**

**University Director(s)**  
**Principal Investigators**

**COE Program Manager(s)**  
**Technical Monitor(s)**

**DOT Office of Acquisitions & Grants Management**



# Funding Authorities

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- **CONTRACTS**  
Authorized by White House  
Reinvention Lab
  - **GRANTS**  
Authorized by Congress
- MATCHING FUNDS**  
Leverage scarce government  
resources and maximize  
technological capabilities





# Funding Levels

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- 1992 - 96 Computational Modeling of Aircraft Structures \$10M
- 1995 - Airport Technology \$10M
- 1996 - Operations Research \$30M
- 1997 - Airworthiness Assurance \$60M
- 2001 - General Aviation \$ 5M
- 2003 Noise Mitigation \$~3M\*

**TOTAL – Grants/Contracts and Matching Funds ~ \$118M**

\* Proposed



# Potential Centers

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- **Human Factors**
- **Weather**
- **Training**
- **Air Traffic**
  - **Security**
  - **Information**
- **Information Technology**
- **Noise Mitigation – September 2003**



# Potential Sponsors

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- **DOD**
  - **Air Force**
  - **Joint Forces**
- **EPA**
- **DOE**
- **NASA**
- **TSA**
- **Homeland Security**

# FAA CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE



*Resources to advance the technological future  
of the nation's aviation community*



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