



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tom Kok  
Director, AviAssist Foundation  
Tel: +31 (0)207143148/12  
[tom.kok@aviassist.org](mailto:tom.kok@aviassist.org)

Contact: Emily McGee  
Director of Communications, FSF  
Tel. +1 703.739.6700 (ext. 126)  
[mcgee@flightsafety.org](mailto:mcgee@flightsafety.org)

### **Companies team up with AviAssist Foundation for (electronic) safety management support in Africa**

**Alexandria, VA, 21 October, 2008** — The AviAssist Foundation in Southern Africa announced today that it had received several important technology donations from two companies in Europe. ADSE Consulting & Engineering of the Netherlands and Gael Ltd. of the UK have teamed up with AviAssist to support the initiation of data driven management in Africa.

“The first step to managing anything is to measure it. Safety management and data analysis are tools that can be highly efficient in predicting where ought to be taken to prevent accidents and incidents,” noted AviAssist Director Tom Kok. “However, data driven safety management has not yet influenced operations in Africa on a large scale. The exposure to the technology from ADSE and Gael will assist the Foundation in enabling African operators and governments to draw valuable lessons from normal operations and incidents. In these activities, the AviAssist Foundation aims to work complementary to IATA’s activities on flight safety data management in our region.”

These actions are being met with strong support from leading aviation safety groups around the world.

“Aviation is growing strongly throughout the African continent. The important role of safety management systems and state safety programs in coping with such growth should not be underestimated” said FSF President and CEO William R. Voss. “The Foundation’s drive to support SMS proliferation is undiminished. The AviAssist Foundation supports safety management implementation in East and Southern Africa as our regional affiliate”.

ADSE will further assist the Foundation by printing and distributing booklets that will introduce critical aviation outsiders in Africa to the concept and importance of an effective aviation safety policy.

###

The **AviAssist Foundation** is an independent organization that works with countries and companies in East and Southern Africa to replicate the safety successes that have been attained elsewhere. As the regional affiliate of the Flight Safety Foundation, it identifies threats to aviation safety, analyzes the problems and works on practical solutions to them. It works in close coordination with the International Civil Aviation Organization, stakeholders and other organizations that provide safety support.

For more information, visit [www.aviassist.org](http://www.aviassist.org)