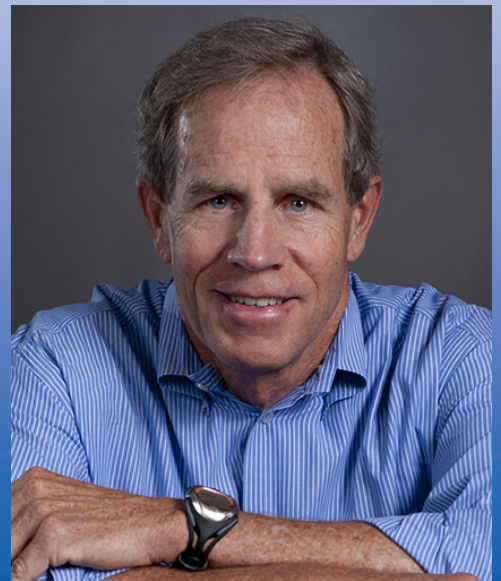


Crashing a Boeing 727 in the Mexican Desert

This seminar will describe technical and operational issues encountered during the preparation and filming of the recent "Plane Crash" documentary on the Discovery Channel. The experiment was conducted to investigate crash dynamics and occupant survivability factors. A highly instrumented unmanned Boeing 727 was intentionally flown into the desert near Mexicali Mexico. The crash profile was a landing configuration with the impact parameters designed to be at the limit of occupant survivability. Results indicated significant variability in occupant survivability depending on seat location and generally confirmed current design criteria.

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Dr. R. John Hansman

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