44th ISAM Conference

The 44th annual conference of Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine, was held at Institute of Aerospace Medicine (IAM), IAF, Bangalore from 20 - 22 Nov 2003. Air Marshal M McMahon PVSM AVSM VM ADC, the Vice Chief of the Air Staff, inaugurated the conference. Air Marshal PK Sarkar DGMS (Air) the President of the Society, left no leaf unturned to personally guide and steer the conference to a gala event. Chief Coordinator Air Cmde JS Kulkarni, Commandant IAM, IAF, Bangalore and Organizing Secretary Gp Capt MM Dogra toiled hard to turn the event to a grand success. Dr Ulf Baldin, Senior Scientist, Air Force Research Laboratory, Brooks - City Base, USA delivered the Air Marshal Subroto Mukherjee Memorial Oration. The oration was titled ‘How important is scientific research and testing of life support equipment for high performance aircraft?’ A guest lecture titled ‘Syncope revisited: A physiologist’s viewpoint’ was delivered by Gp Capt MB Dikshit (Retd). Mrs Linda McMahon, Vice President AFWFA (C) inaugurated the scientific exhibition.

More than 250 delegates attended the conference, which included delegates from USA, Sultanate of Oman, Greece, and Sri Lanka. There were eight Scientific sessions followed by Continued Medical Education. More than 40 scientific papers on Human Factors, Acceleration Physiology, Clinical and Civil Aviation etc were presented during the conference. Twenty poster presentations were exhibited on 20th and 21 Nov 2003.

The papers/posters by the following delegates were selected as the best in their category.
(a) Best Paper in Institutional Category:
Pulse oximetry as a tool in physiologic validation of oxygen systems for helicopters.
Wg Cdr VV Joshi

(b) Best Paper in Field Category:
Neurasthenia in an aircrew: Case report and literature review.
Wg Cdr CS Thakur

(c) Best Paper in Civil Aviation Category:
Aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage on board: A case report.
Dr T Subramanyam

(d) Best Poster Presentation:
Advances in science and practice of musculoskeletal trauma care and its role in early rehabilitation.
Sqn Ldr V Kulshreshtha

(e) Om Satya Mehra Award:
Development of data acquisition system for evaluation of heat strain.
Wg Cdr PK Jain

51st International Congress of Aviation and Space Medicine (ICASM)

The 51st International conference of Aviation and Space Medicine was held at Madrid, Spain from 05 to 09 Oct 2003. The Society was represented at the Conference by Air Vice Marshal (Mrs) P Bandopadhyay AVSM VSM, Air Cmde SP Kapoor, Wg Cdr S Chowdhary, Wg Cdr Anupam Agarwal and Surg Cdr SS Khanuja. Surg Cdr SS Khanuja presented a poster presentation on ‘Human Error Analysis of Indian Naval Aviation Accidents (1990-2001) - The application of Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS)’, which was well received. Air Cmde SP Kapoor presented the bid to host the ICASM in the year 2006 at Bangalore, India, which was accepted.
**Life Members / Associate Fellows of ISAM**

In this year six life members have been added to the Society. The Executive Committee of ISAM has also approved the applications of the following five members for grant of Associate Fellowship:

(a) Gp Capt MM Dogra  
(b) Wg Cdr Sanjeev Sood  
(c) Wg Cdr N Taneja  
(d) Wg JK Shrivastava  
(e) Wg Cdr VV Joshi  
(f) Wg Cdr CK Ranjan

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**Life Members / Associate Fellows of IASM**

During the Annual General Body Meeting, by the approval of the house, Wg Cdr Rajiv Kapur was awarded the fellowship of the society.

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**Adieu to Outgoing President**

Air Marshal SK Dharm PVSM, AVSM, VSM PHS retired from Indian Air Force on 30 June 2003. He has been associated with ISAM for the last 40 years. He took over as the president of the society on 29 August 2002. He guided the society to greater heights. On his retirement the society wishes the very best in his future endeavours and looks forward to his continued guidance.