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2007 he led a team to reduce errors in aviation maintenance and inspection, as well as security services, as Director of Research Institute for Safety and Security in Transportation (RISST). He has over 200 publications on topics in quality control, aviation inspection and maintenance, security and safety. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, the Chartered Institute for Ergonomics and Human Factors, the International Ergonomics Association and the Human Factors & Ergonomics Society. Colin Drury received the Bartlett medal of the Ergonomics Society and both the Fitts and Lauer Awards of the Human Factors Ergonomics Society. In 2005 he received that FAA's Excellence in Aviation Research award, while in 2006 he was awarded American Association of Engineering Societies' Kenneth Andrew Roe Award. He is a private pilot.