

Situational Awareness

Quick Reference & Reminder

Build Situational Awareness :

Set specific objectives – Define flight targets and data gathering

Set priorities – Follow standard operating procedures (SOPs)

Prepare for anomalies – Consider visual illusions, missing information, etc.

Make risk assessments – Ask “what if?”

Manage workload – Shift tasks away from busy times, delegate, anticipate

Maintain Situational Awareness :

Communicate – Keep all crewmembers and external participants informed

Manage attention – Set priorities, avoid distractions, adjust monitoring to the urgency of the flight phase

Seek Information – Use your senses

- ✓ Know **WHAT** is important, **WHEN** to seek it and **WHERE** to find it
- ✓ Validate your data
 - Cross-check – Use multiple sources of information when available
 - Use rules of thumb when data are not available

Check Your Understanding

- ✓ Check for contradictory elements in the real world
- ✓ Apply experience and lessons learned

Think Ahead

- ✓ Brief others on what you expect
- ✓ Compare projected situation with objectives
- ✓ Set markers for confirmation and information
- ✓ Compare actual situation with expectations and objectives
- ✓ Readjust your plan if required

Situational Awareness *Quick Reference & Reminder (cont'*

Detect Loss of Situational Awareness :

Look for clues of degraded Situational Awareness

- ✓ **Ambiguity** – Unclear flight plans or ATC instructions
- ✓ **Fixation** – Focusing on one thing to the exclusion of all else
- ✓ **Confusion** – Uncertainty about or misunderstanding a situation or information
- ✓ **Preoccupation** – Everyone focusing on non-flying activities; no one flying the aircraft
- ✓ **Unresolved discrepancies** – Contradictory data or personal conflicts
- ✓ **Expected checkpoints not met** – Flight plan, profile, time, fuel burn
- ✓ **Poor communications** – Vague or incomplete statements
- ✓ **Broken rules** – Limitations, minimums, regulatory requirements, failure to follow SOPs
- ✓ **No time** – Falling behind the aircraft

Recover Situational Awareness :

Go to the nearest SAFE, SIMPLE and STABLE situation

- ✓ Follow rules, procedures and SOPs
- ✓ Change automation level
- ✓ Buy time

Communicate – Asking for help is not a sign of weakness

Recover the big picture

- ✓ Go back to the last thing you were sure of
- ✓ Assess the situation from different perspectives, with different sources
- ✓ Expand your focus to avoid fixation and tunnel vision
- ✓ Manage stress and distraction
- ✓ Take time to think / Use that time / Be willing to delay flight progress