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Enhanced Learnability of Flight Techniques Through the Introduction of Targeted Observation Flights with Ab-Initio through Advanced Flight Training Candidates

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Enhanced Learnability of Flight Techniques

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By:
Nicola O’Toole, Dr. John Robbins, Gary Carter
Flight Training Success: How is it measured?

• The industry needs pilots (AOPA and others)

  "29,000 Pilots who will retire from cockpits at major airlines within the next 10 years"

  "117,000 New pilots who will be required in North America over the next 20 years, according to Boeing"

  "600,000 worldwide"

• Therefore: How can the demand be met:
  ▫ Effectively and efficiently
Observation Flights To Increase Success

• One Key Element in successful flight training
  ▫ Successful = Effective + Efficient

• How is an observer conducted?
  ▫ Passive
  ▫ Structured / Targeted
  ▫ Observer as a crewmember
Our Experience

- Practical Side – Observations augment learnability
- Academic Side – Observations help with knowledge assimilation, retention, understanding, and correlation

- There is little empirical data, however, there are vast amounts of anecdotal data from testimonials.
- In addition, our experience.
Benefits

- Costs
- Proficiency
- Decision Making
- Time to Certifications/Ratings
- Safety
- CRM
- Less PIC but MORE flight experience.
Drawbacks

- Potential Negative Transfer of Learning
- Time Investment
- Instructor Limiting Feedback During Debrief
- Different Aircraft “Feel”
Where do we go from here?

• Definitive need to conduct qualitative and quantitative research to validate anecdotal data!

• Keep encouraging our students to observe!

• Develop Industry “buy-in” regarding observations and their benefits
Questions?
THANK YOU!