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## The Editor's Forum

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**THE EDITOR'S FORUM**

Welcome to the winter rendition of the Editor's Forum in which I will attempt to inspire dialog via the Forum of the *Journal of Aviation and Aerospace/ Education and Research (JAAER)*.

In one of our forum manuscripts the author, Patrick Ross, addresses the human factors issues of the aircraft checklist. With the increased complexity of aircraft evolution since world war two, it was inevitable that the checklists associated with these aircraft became as complex. The importance of the checklist increased as well. Both facts are well known to pilots yet the research has shown that misuse of this vital tool has been a contributor to accidents for many years.

Ross addresses the human factors issues associated with this human failure. What at first seems to be a simple helpful tool can become the instrument of disaster. I think Ross does a great job of bringing out the reasons that pilots error in the use of the checklist. I hope this paper will inspire more human factors research in the area of checklist usage. Perhaps you have the background and expertise to continue this forum.

In our other forum paper Robert Keegan discuss the long-standing issue of aeromedical issues in diabetic aviators. Keegan goes into detail to explain the types of diabetes and the associated symptoms and ramifications. He addresses the Federal regulations concerning this debilitating disease and the medical certification concerns of the FAA. Keegan describes the specific needs of airman flying with diabetes and the precautions and procedures they must endure to keep their medical. He gives advice to pilots on maintaining their flying status and the affects this issue has on all pilots in the realm of safety.

I think you will find this paper very informative and helpful if you or someone you know that flies while dealing with diabetes. Advances in research and medicine have put many fliers into the air that were formerly denied this great privilege. If any of our readers have other aeromedical related issues, please bring them to open discussion in the Forum of the *Journal of Aviation / Aerospace Education and Research*.

Fly safely.

Sincerely,

William Kohlruss  
Editor

