Fly Safe Campaign

MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS
Don’t become a statistic!
The NTSB has reported 26 accidents with 3 fatalities so far in 2014. Early reports indicate a fatal accident occurred last Friday in California as a result of a wire strike and resulting ground impact and fire.

NTSB’s MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS
Ten of the 26 ag aviation accidents reported thus far have been assigned a preliminary cause of mechanical problems. Two have been airframe problems and eight have been engine failure or loss of power. The power losses have been about evenly split between radial and turbine engines.

NTSB’s report on ag aviation accidents for 2013 concluded that operators need to improve the manner in which aircraft are inspected and maintenance best practices are followed. Quality assurance programs should be implemented to prevent unsafe practices from being introduced and perpetuated. They noted that manufacturer’s service bulletins and service information letters are not mandatory and are often not completed on ag aircraft. The NTSB stated in regards to ag aviation accidents that often times, a component that fails has been the subject of one of these bulletins but remained uncompleted.

PAASS recommends that all service information be taken seriously. There was a reason the manufacturer felt it necessary to inform owners of the potential problem. This quote from a recent PAASS program applies to maintenance: “Seldom do our engines fail us; instead, we usually fail them.” Think of this wisdom when maintaining the entire aircraft!

Remember TFR Awareness
Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) before flying! FAA recommends you obtain TFR NOTAMs from FSS. Make sure you have proof that you made the effort to comply as verified by briefing records at FSS or by DUATS log in.

Make a “Fly Safe” Resolution Now!

To be removed from the “Fly Safe” fax list, please call 202-546-5722 or e-mail information@agaviation.org. Let us know if you wish to be removed only from these Fly Safe messages or all faxes or e-mails from the NAAA.