

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 39 ag accidents including 10 fatal accidents so far this year. There has been 1 fatal accident not yet reported by NTSB bringing the unofficial total to 11 fatal accidents.

BE IN THE MOMENT - DON'T LET DISTRACTIONS TAKE YOUR ATTENTION OFF THE TASK AT HAND

There are numerous things that can cause an ag pilot to become distracted and result in them taking their concentration away from a critical task at hand. Ag flying requires extreme concentration and even a few seconds of diverted attention can result in an accident. Distractions can come from a variety of sources. Smart phones are an obvious one – whether you're trying to video your flight or trying to read a text from a customer, your focus is on the phone and not the flight. It makes no difference if it's for personal or business purposes.

Technology, both those that are essential to the application and those that are not, inside the cockpit can become a distraction. Many technologies, once learned, can reduce distractions by simplifying tasks and allowing pilots to focus more on flying. These include GPS, automatic rate controllers, mapping and application record keeping software, and ADS-B. However, if these technologies don't work correctly or cause confusion during their initial integration thereby affecting the application mission, it might be advisable to temporarily go back to the old method of doing things until a time when you can safely focus on the new technology.

Stress can also cause a pilot to focus on something besides their current flight. Customers demanding their work get done or complaining about work already done can be very distracting, and it can be hard to keep these things out of your head when you're flying. Similarly, turmoil in your personal life can cause the mind to focus on the wrong thing when you need it focused on flying safely. Remind your loved ones and the office to save any grievances and problems that aren't emergencies until you can deal with them on the ground so you aren't distracted from flying safe. Be in the moment every flight, every pass.

Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs)

Always check TFR NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or <https://www.1800wxbrief.com>.

Make a "Fly Safe" Resolution Now!