General Aviation Joint Steering Committee

Loss of Control Working Group

**Outreach Guidance Document**

**2019/05-01-164(I)PP**

This outreach guidance is provided to all FAA and aviation industry groups that are participating in outreach efforts sponsored by the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee (GAJSC). It is important that all outreach on a given topic is coordinated and is free of conflicts. Therefore, all outreach products should be in alignment with the outline and concepts listed below for this topic.

**Outreach Month: February 2020**

**Topic: Coping with Interruptions and Distractions**

The FAA and industry will conduct a public education campaign emphasizing the need for improved Aeronautical Decision Making to include coping with Interruptions and Distractions.

**Background:**

Distractions and interruptions are causal factors in nearly 25% of motor vehicle accidents in the United States. The NTSB has noted these causal factors in fatal aviation accidents as well however the linkage is often not as clear as with motor vehicle accidents. The linkage is strong enough for the GAJSC to recommend awareness training on the benefits of successful coping with interruptions and distractions while flying.

**Teaching Points:**

* Distractions and interruptions can severly compromise flight safety if they occur during critical phases of flight.
* General Aviation Pilots are particularly at risk because they usually do not have addititional flight crew members to assist them.
* Management of passenger expectations is essential to minimizing the occurance and effect of interruptions and distractions.
* Checklist discipline and the proper use of autopilots are effective means to effectively cope with interruptions and distractions.

**References:**

* ***Interruptions and Distractions PowerPoint***
  + Available on the National FAASTeam Share Point site under Approved Presentations.
* Pilot’s Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge (FAA-H-8083-25A) – Chapter 2 – Aeronautical Decision-Making
  + <http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/phak/>

**IMPORTANT** – Once you have completed outreach on this topic, please help us track the outreach you have done by entering a PTRS record.

