



Sunny Swift

"Stabilized approaches"

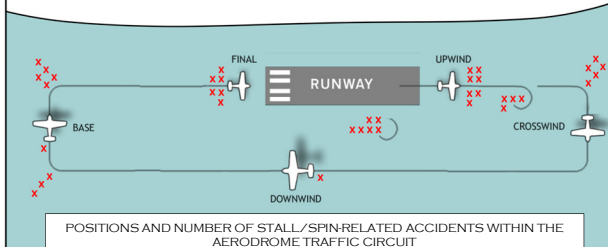
THERE'S A BIG MEETING TODAY AT THE FLYING CLUB. THE AGENDA TODAY IS FLIGHT SAFETY IN THE AERODROME TRAFFIC CIRCUIT



WELCOME TO THE THIRD MEETING WITH THE LOCAL RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION. I HOPE YOU FIND, LIKE ME, THAT THESE REGULAR MEETINGS HAVE GREATLY IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FLYING CLUB AND THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.



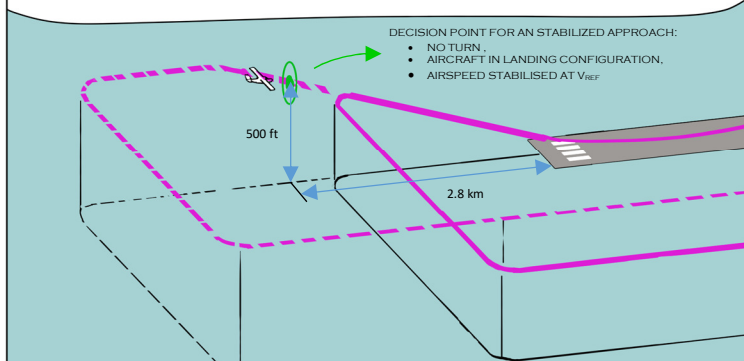
MOST ACCIDENTS HAPPEN DURING THE APPROACH FOR LANDING.



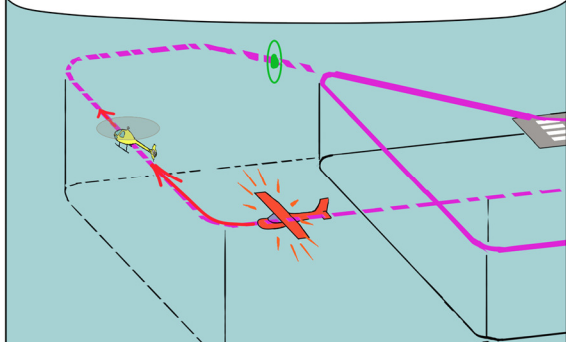
THIS HAS BEEN UNDERSTOOD FOR A LONG TIME BY CAT (COMMERCIAL AIR TRANSPORT), WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF **STABILIZED APPROACHES**.

*A STABILIZED APPROACH IS ONE IN WHICH THE PILOT ESTABLISHES AND MAINTAINS A CONSTANT ANGLE GLIDE-PATH TOWARDS A PREDETERMINED POINT ON THE LANDING RUNWAY

FOR CAT, THE DECISION THRESHOLD IS 1000 FT IN IMC. FOR VFR (GA), 500 FT SHOULD BE IDEAL, WHICH MEANS AT 1.5 NM OR 2.8 KM FROM THE RUNWAY THRESHOLD. THE APPROACH WOULD BE SAFER, FOR THE AIRCRAFT OCCUPANTS, AND FOR PEOPLE ON THE GROUND.

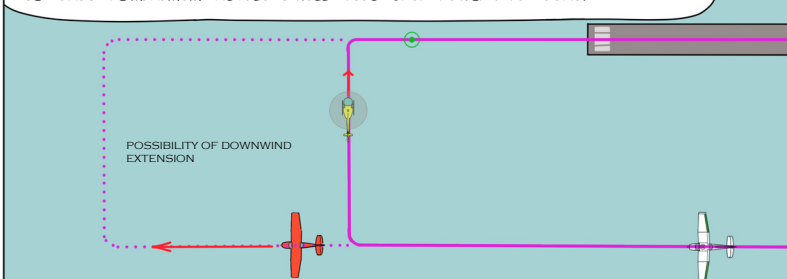


SEPARATION BETWEEN TRAFFIC IN THE PATTERN IS ALSO ESSENTIAL. FORCING AIRCRAFT FLYING AT DIFFERENT SPEEDS TO FOLLOW A TRACK WILL LEAD TO SEPARATION ISSUES AND AN INCREASE IN WORKLOAD FOR THE PILOT. THAT COULD EVEN LEAD TO A LATE DECISION TO GO AROUND.



THE PREFERRED OPTION IS TO ALLOW AN EXTENSION OF THE DOWNWIND LEG TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT SEPARATION FOR A STABILISED APPROACH.

THE IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES ON RESIDENTS SHOULD BE NEGLIGIBLE, AS POWER SETTINGS ARE MINIMUM AND PILOTS WILL AVOID ABRUPT POWER VARIATIONS.



DURING THE DISCUSSION, IT IS PROPOSED TO FLY THE DOWNWIND LEG HIGHER, TO REDUCE THE NOISE IMPACT ON THE GROUND.

THE MEETING IS FINISHED.



SUBJECT TO THE AGREEMENT BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY, IT WAS DECIDED TO TRY OUT THE NEW CIRCUIT PATTERN NEXT SUMMER FOR 2 MONTHS, AND TO MEET AGAIN IN ORDER TO COLLECT FEEDBACK FROM THE RESIDENTS AND THE PILOTS. SUNNY ALSO CONFIRMED THAT THE CLUB HAS DECIDED TO INVEST IN SILENCERS FOR ALL THE FLEET USED BY THE CLUB. IN THE COMING YEARS, THEY WILL LOOK INTO THE ELECTRIC AIRCRAFT THAT WILL BE COMING ONTO THE MARKET.

You can find links to

- Stabilized approaches
 - Spin resistant research report
 - Sunny #4 "Crosswind final turn"
- in the "related content" section

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