

THE SENTINEL



OFFICIAL SAFETY NEWSLETTER OF CIVIL AIR PATROL

First Aircraft Accident of FY05

The Louisiana Wing experienced the first CAP aircraft accident of the year on the 10th of January. The C-182R with 2 commercial, instrument pilots onboard crashed at approximately 8:05 pm in the instrument approach pattern at Monroe Regional Airport, Monroe, LA. The aircraft was destroyed and both pilots were killed. The night instrument proficiency flight was planned for two sorties. The first sortie for CPF1630 involved two ILS approaches and a VOR approach to runway 22. They were successfully accomplished in visual meteorological conditions (VMC). After a short break on the ground, the crew again took off to repeat the instrument profile they had just done. The weather deteriorated and the airfield went to instrument flight rules (IFR). During this second sortie, pilot instrument proficiency seemed to degrade as the weather deteriorated. During the first ILS, the pilot experienced trouble placing the aircraft on the approach course. The pilot received vectors and told the controller to expect a full-stop due to the low ceiling (900' broken). CPF1630 then requested a missed approach and received vectors and a climb. The pilot was vectored around the pattern and again cleared for the ILS approach. The crew contacted the tower and was cleared to land. Tower told the pilot that he was south of final - the pilot responded that he was correcting. During the correction back to the course, CPF1630 ends up northbound, heading towards a C-130 that was following 4 miles in trail on the ILS. The pilot twice requested a missed approach to let the C-130 proceed. Tower assigned a heading and altitude for sequencing. The clearance was correctly read back and the crew was sent to departure. No further transmissions were heard from CPF1630.



The aircraft wreckage was found the following morning in a hazardous waste containment pond under the ILS approach course. NTSB, FAA and the Louisiana Wing are investigating this tragic accident.

Don't Take Your Hearing for Granted

Most of us go through life taking our senses for granted. Like touching, tasting, smelling, and seeing; hearing is something we do automatically, without giving it much thought. But when something goes wrong with any of our senses, including our hearing, we expect that medical science has a miracle to offer. Unfortunately, medicine offers only moderate improvement for people with hearing loss. Hearing loss cannot be restored for most people. Lots of people suffer some degree of hearing loss. Anyone whose work or hobby involves loud noise is susceptible to hearing loss - it can be prevented.

Exposure to normal noise levels doesn't cause hearing loss. Hearing loss occurs because of overexposure to high noise levels. Noise is measured in units called "decibels." (abbreviated



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as dBA) The higher the decibel, the louder the noise. To help you see the difference in the decibel scale, look at these examples of various noise levels:

- **20 dBA - soft whisper**
- **40 dBA - quiet office or library**
- **60 dBA - normal conversation**
- **85 dBA - noisy restaurant**
- **90 dBA - tractor or garbage disposal**
- **100 dBA - motorcycle or snowmobile**
- **115 dBA - loud music or leaf blower**
- **125 dBA - chainsaw**
- **140 dBA - aircraft taking off**
- **170 dBA - shotgun blast**

In the workplace, hearing protection must be used to reduce noise exposure for anyone who is generally exposed to 90 decibels or more over the course of their workday. Hearing protection may be used at lower levels, particularly for people who are very close to the 90 decibel exposure level. Sounds above 120 decibels can cause hearing damage after only a brief exposure and should be avoided unless hearing protection is worn. Noise levels above 140 decibels can cause damage to hearing after just one exposure.

Think of those sounds you take for granted and imagine life without them. Don't let unnecessary exposure to noise take them away. You can do something to help protect your hearing. Take the time to know when protection is required and use it faithfully - if you do, your hearing can last a lifetime.

Have a Nice Trip -- See You Next Fall

Did you know that slips, trips, and falls are second only to automobile accidents in causing personal injury? In CAP, they are typically the most common bodily injury cause. On stairways alone, falls result in almost two million disabling injuries yearly. There are thousands more minor injuries caused by slips, trips, and falls each year. Most alarming of all is the fact that industrial falls cause over 1000 deaths each year.

Slips occur when there is too little friction between a person's feet and the walking surface. Many factors can cause a slip; ice, oil, water, cleaning fluids, and other slippery substances are probably the most obvious causes. However, the flooring may be inappropriate - perhaps it is a slick material - or the person who slips may not be

wearing proper shoes. To prevent slips, avoid walking in areas which pose slipping hazards if at all possible. Always promptly clean up spills of slippery substances. Better yet, prevent the spills in the first place. If an area is a chronic problem, re-route foot traffic in order to avoid it. If flooring is a problem, replace it or coat it with a non-slip surfacing material.

Trips occur when a person's foot contacts an object and they are thrown off balance. The main cause of tripping is obvious - anytime something is in a walkway it can cause someone to trip. Another culprit is an object which projects into the walkway - perhaps material stored low on a shelf. Poor lighting and uneven walking surfaces also cause tripping. Prevention of trips is simple but does require diligence. Keep objects that could cause someone to trip out of the way. Repair uneven flooring and install proper lighting if required.

Falls can be caused by a number of things. Slips and trips frequently result in a fall. Falls also occur for other reasons. Improper use of ladders and scaffolding can result in a fall-usually a very serious one. Falls also happen when people climb objects without using fall protection equipment. Don't risk serious injury by taking shortcuts. If you are working on a ladder, scaffold, or other elevated platform, make sure you know the requirements for using them safely.

Slips, trips, and falls cause numerous injuries every day. But they are among the easiest hazards to correct. Take the time to look around your activity site for these hazards and work to prevent them. Don't let a slip, trip, or fall keep you from enjoying all that life has to offer.

Other Safety Meeting Topics

- **Wing Upper Surface Ice Accumulation**
<http://www.nts.gov/pressrel/2004/041229.htm>
- **Bermuda High Soaring School - Safety Corner**
<http://www.glider.org/>
- **Super Bowl Safety Plan**
http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/alcohol/StopImpaired/Superbow_MiniPlanner/pages/Index.htm
- **Airborne Law Enforcement Association - Safety First**
<http://www.alea.org/public/safety/index.htm>
- **Reporting of Laser Illumination of Aircraft**
http://www.faa.gov/newsroom/AC_70-2_Final.pdf
- **Snow Shoveling Safety**
<http://www.ext.nodak.edu/snow.htm>

Safety is expecting the unexpected