



University of Southern Queensland

Research Project Survey Invitation

– Aviation Decision-Making and Risk Appraisal in Normal Operations

This research study aims to understand aviation decision-making in the context of small aeroplane and helicopter operations and the impacts COVID-19 may have had on operational decisions.

Do you:

- have past or present experience in air operations such as tourist flights, A to B passenger charters, air ambulance, search and rescue, bush flying, or other commercial charter, etc.? And,
- hold or have ever held a Commercial Pilot Licence Aeroplane or Helicopter, CPL(A)/(H), or an Air Transport Pilot Licence Helicopter, ATPL(H)? Or,
- have any experience in a supervisory/chief pilot, or similar role within these types of air operations?

If so, the research team really wants to hear from you and invites you to share your thoughts and opinions, by participating in an online survey. The survey should take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Your participation is entirely voluntary and the information you provide will be ANONYMOUS. You are not obliged to take part if you do not wish to and if you do decide to take part, but later change your mind, you are free to stop at any time.

The data will be retained on the USQ School of Psychology and Counselling password protected data storage systems and double backed-up on the USQ online secured storage. In addition, QRIS Cloud will be used to back up data and information.

In recognition of your time and effort you can choose to go into a draw with a 5-10% chance of winning one of fifteen \$50 Prezy Cards. The prize draw will close on Friday 3 December at 11pm and the prizes will be drawn on Monday 6 December. If you are successful, you will be informed within a week of the prizes being drawn.

Where do I find the Survey?

If you want to participate, click on the following link, and by clicking the survey link you are indicating that you consent to participate in the research.

[SURVEY LINK: Aviation Decision-Making and Risk Appraisal in Normal Operations Survey Link](#)

Human Research Ethics Approval Number: H21REA193

If you have any concerns or complaints about the ethical conduct of the project, you may contact the University of Southern Queensland, Manager of Research Integrity and Ethics on +61 7 4631 1839 or email researchintegrity@usq.edu.au. The Manager of Research Integrity and Ethics is not connected with the research project and can address your concern in an unbiased manner.

What is the benefit of completing the survey?

It is expected this project will directly benefit you and fellow pilots through more effective and inclusive engagements with the leadership within your organisation. The outcomes of the project will provide insights that will contribute to improving the safety of the aviation system.

Outline

The overall aim of this research project is to explore the influences that can lead pilots, operating helicopters and/or small aeroplanes, to make operational decisions that may be judged by others as risky. Examples being, choosing not to follow procedures, rules, or regulations etc., or the continuation of a flight into deteriorating conditions. Deteriorating conditions are defined as Visual Flight Rules (VFR) flight into instrument meteorological conditions (IMC), or reducing visibility (whiteout, etc.). Furthermore, the information gained by this research survey will help develop theories about the role factors such as organisation leadership and/or safety culture/climate have on operational decisions.

Regards
Research Team

Principal Investigators

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