3-P Risk Management Process

Good aeronautical decision-making includes risk management, a process that systematically identifies hazards, assesses the degree of risk, and determines the best course of action. There are many models for risk management, including charts that generate a numerical “score.” Although these tools can be useful, numbers-based tools suggest a level of precision that may be misleading.

An alternative method is the Perceive – Process – Perform risk management and aeronautical decision-making model developed by the FAA Aviation Safety Program. There are three basic steps in this model:

**PERCEIVE** hazards

**PROCESS** to evaluate level of risk

**PERFORM** risk management

**PERCEIVE:** The goal is to identify hazards, which are events, objects, or circumstances that could contribute to an undesired event. You need to consider hazards associated with:

- Pilot
- Aircraft
- enVironment
- External Pressures.

**PROCESS:** Ask questions to determine what can hurt you. In short, why do you have to **CARE** about these hazards?

What are the **Consequences**?
What are the **Alternatives** available to me?
What is the **Reality** of the situation facing me?
What kind of **External** pressures may affect my thinking?

**PERFORM:** Change the situation in your favor. Your objective is to make sure the hazard does not hurt **ME** or my loved ones, so work to either

- Mitigate the risk involved, or
- Eliminate the risk involved.