Introduction

Note: This document has been adapted from pamphlet P-8470-69.

FAA Advisory Circular 60-22 on Aeronautical Decision Making (FAA Advisory Circular 60-22) states that ADM is a systematic approach to the mental process used by all involved in aviation to consistently determine the best course of action for a given set of circumstances.

What does that really mean? From the moment your feet hit the floor in the morning until the key is safely back in your pocket at the end of each flight, you as the pilot (or crew member) have a never-ending series of decisions to make. This process begins long before the master is switched on. The process of good ADM is a continuous flow in information in and actions out. This document describes an effective way to manage this information flow.

Perceive, Process, Perform

Perceive

At any given moment, information affecting the outcome of a flight is all around you. How you manage that flow of information will definitely have an effect on the relative success or failure of each and every flight. First, gather information from all available sources. This is the perceive part of the process. You might think of the "information" as situations or facts that require your attention. You will want to perceive situations or facts related to each major element of your flight:

- Pilot, passengers and other people involved.
- Aircraft you will be flying.
- Environment in which you will operate (e.g., airport, airspace, weather).