

SmartPilot.ca – single source web portal for safe flying is launched!

Queensville, Ontario – Canada's single source web portal for all things related to flying safely was launched. This site is a one-stop source for information, interactive courses and content rich videos – all focused on helping pilots stay fresh and current about flight operations.

Best of all, use of the site is open and free to all. The material is applicable to all levels of pilots from student through to senior.

Through the financial support of the Government of Canada, under the auspicious of the

Search and Rescue New Initiative Fund (SAR NIF), SmartPilot.ca has been several years in the making and encompasses a wide variety of materials covering a multitude of subjects related to flying.

Examples of the site content include Airmanship, Human Factors, Flight Training, Specialty Aircraft (inclusive of Float Flying and Ultralights), Avionics, Maintenance, Weather, Navigation, Search & Rescue – and much more.

The project has been developed with co-operation from many leading sources and associations including Transport Canada, The Transportation Safety Board, Canadian Aviation Search and Rescue Association and a Board of Advisors comprised of recognized aviation community leaders.

Material and site functionality was also the subject of rigorous focus group research over several sessions. According to project development leader Ted Rankine, "this is a well advanced site that allows access to materials quickly from a single source. In the past accessing such material involved lots of search time on the web. We have eliminated that and bring everything within a click or two. We have sourced and posted materials that serve to inform, educate and encourage safe flying under all circumstances. Just the ability to do your recency test on-line with us in a self-paced manner and get the certificate instantly is a step in helping pilots.

The commitment to SmartPilot.ca is ongoing. New materials and purpose designed videos, articles and courses will be added as they come along. Also, working with the American Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), SmartPilot.ca has made it easy for users to quickly access and participate in the AOPA Safety Institute courses. Similar co-operative relationships are ongoing, including the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association (COPA*) and should result soon in additional materials being made available through the SmartPilot.ca portal.

As Rankine says – "SmartPilot.ca does not replace recognized training from an established flight education institution. It is however a great way for people to build their knowledge and keep up to date

about flight safety matters and procedures. If just one life is saved by something that was taken in through our site – we have done our job."

For additional information or comment, please visit the SmartPilot.ca You may also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

*COPA protects Personal Aviation and promotes it as a valued, integral and sustainable part of the Canadian Community. A key part of promoting this sector of aviation is ensuring that it is as safe a form of transport and recreation as it can be. Smart Pilot, therefore, is an important contributor to this effort.