Recent Evolution of Air Carrier Pilot Training

AABI Luncheon Atlanta, GA Feb 25, 2016

Why Evolve?

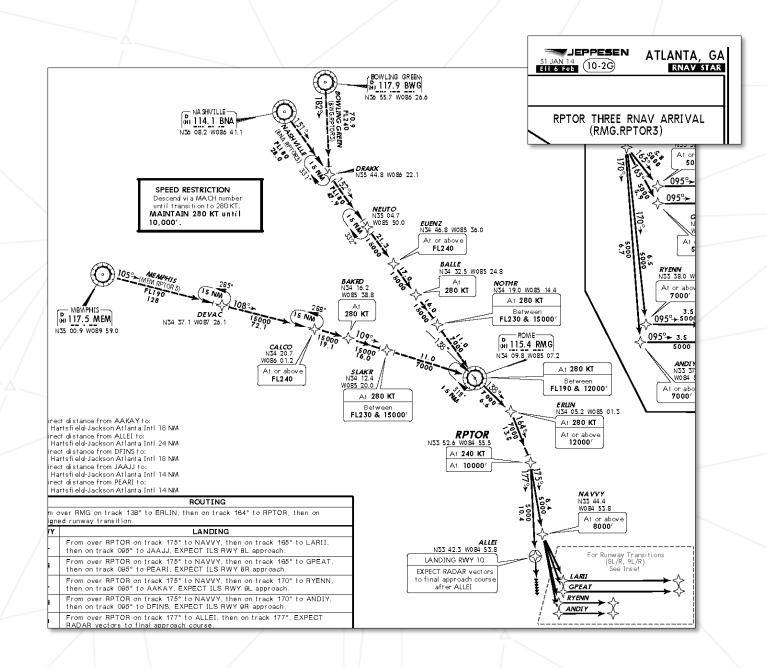
- Capacity pressure at our nation's airports
- Changes to the National Airspace System
- Performance-based Navigation
- Adaptation of autoflight systems & procedures
- Impact on Flight Path Management
- Autoflight/Manual flight balance
- Operational evidence
- The way forward

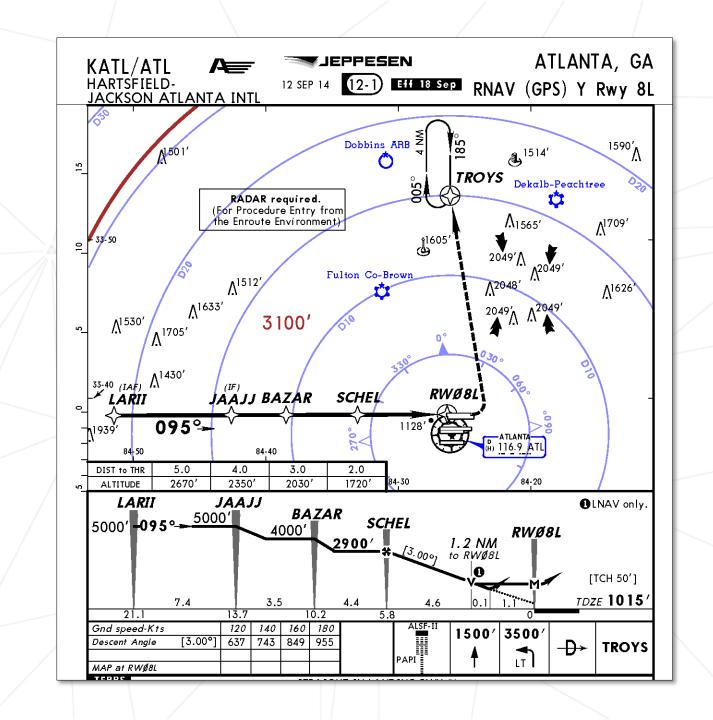


Demand Increasing for Air Travel

- According to IATA;
 - Industry revenue has doubled over the past decade
 - will double over the next 20 years
- FAA's NextGen;
 - "...satellite-based and digital technologies and new procedures that combine to make air travel more convenient, predictable and environmentally friendly."



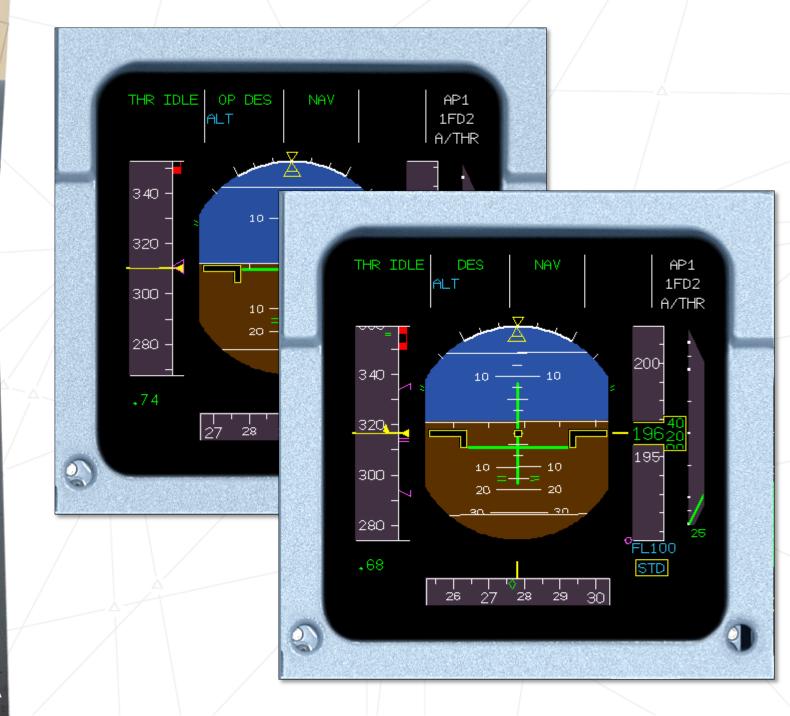




NextGen effect on Pilot Tasks

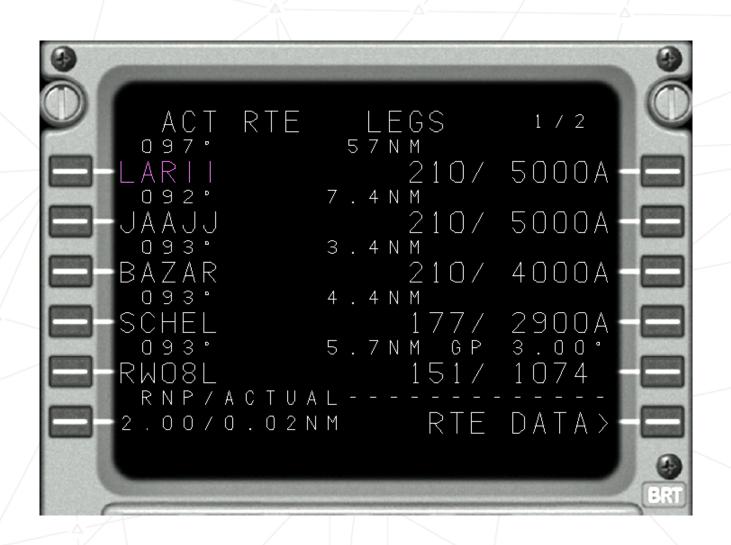
- Requires increased understanding of flight guidance modes and submodes
 - Lateral (LNAV, Managed Nav, Heading)
 - Vertical (VNAV, Managed Des,
 FLCH, Open Des, Vert Speed, FPA)
 - Speed, spacing and ATC factors





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Pilot Tasks (continued)

- Interpret indications to detect departures from the desired path
- Anticipate when certain ATC instructions will require or cause a change in modes
- Be able to move between modes as the situation requires



Shift to automation

- Pilot training programs are emphasizing new skill requirements
 - More exercises involving flight guidance and autoflight manipulation
- Less manual flight practice in the sim, on the line, and as required by company policy
 - Delta no longer evaluates hand-flown non-ILS approaches or CAT II landings.
 They're all done using the autopilot

The SA challenge of automation

- Manual
 - Pilot Input to a/c
 - Instant a/c response
- Autoflight
 - Pilot Input to automation
 - Automation input to a/c
 - Instant or delayed a/c response



Manual flight skills – still required

- Recent accidents
 - Jan 2015, Air Asia Flight 8501, A320,
 Rudder travel limiter
 - Jun 2009, Air France 447, A330,
 pitot tube icing
 - Feb 2009, Colgan Air Flight 3407, stick shaker
 - Feb 2009, Turkish Flight 1951, radio altimeter fault



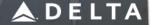
Manual Flight Skills

- Easy to regain and maintain
 - Provide ample time for simulator practice
 - Visual approaches, missed approach (normal and E/O), TCAS avoidance, PRM breakouts, stall prevention/recovery, windshear recovery, normal instrument departures and arrivals, airspeed indicator failures.
 - Encourage practicing hand flying during line operations under appropriate conditions



Upset Recovery and Full Stall training

- FAA full stall training requirements
 - Pilots need solid aerodynamics bedrock
 - Angle of Attack, V-G Diagrams, Lift Curve, Drag Curve, Stall recovery
- Upset recovery
 - Skillful, timely pilot intervention needed
 - Overcome startle factor, know what control inputs and responses are required
- Ever stall in a skid? (<u>Video</u>)



The way forward

- Air Carrier pilots require:
 - Knowledge of aerodynamics to understand AOA, stalls and upset recoveries and V-G diagrams
 - Practical experience in stalls and upsets beginning in early pilot training
 - Increased familiarity with flight guidance and autopilot systems
 - Opportunities to practice and maintain both autoflight and manual skills

