Subject: Personnel Protective Equipment (PPE) for ATGS and Fire Reconnaissance Operations

Distribution: All Air Tactical Fire and Aviation Personnel & Air Tactical Contractors

Discussion: Interagency Accident Prevention Bulletin 09-02, Personnel Protective Equipment, was generic in nature and addressed the benefits and proper use of PPE. This APB addresses a specific problem relating to the use, or rather the non-use, of PPE in Air Tactical Group Supervisor (ATGS) and fire reconnaissance operations.

Although there are slight differences in contract language between USFS and BLM, both agencies require contract pilots (exclusive use, on-call, and call-when-needed) to adhere to required PPE standards. For example, one contract states that “Contractor pilots shall wear full length trousers made of cotton or fire-resistant polyamide or aramid material or equal (a flight suit is considered equal). Contractor personnel shall wear boots or shoes made of all-leather uppers.”

Whether you’re a federal employee or a contractor employee, the requirements for PPE are quite specific:

WEAR IT!
Subject: Personnel Protective Equipment for ATGS Operations and Fire Reconnaissance Operations

Wearing this

not this

Just may keep this from happening

/s/ Robert Galloway
Robert Galloway
Aviation Safety Manager

/s/ Ron Hanks
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