

# Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand

## Flying The Now A Human Performance Challenge?

Matt Harris – Safety Investigator

Healthy Paranoia

Professional Unease

Mindfulness

Practiced Mistrust

*“the pilot failed to perceive the visual stimuli,  
experiencing inattention blindness”*

*“inability of the flight crew to determine  
when parameters were inappropriate”*

*“not detected by the flight crew  
until well into the take-off run, if at all”*

*“the pilot did not recognise that the aircraft  
was too low to complete the manoeuvre”*

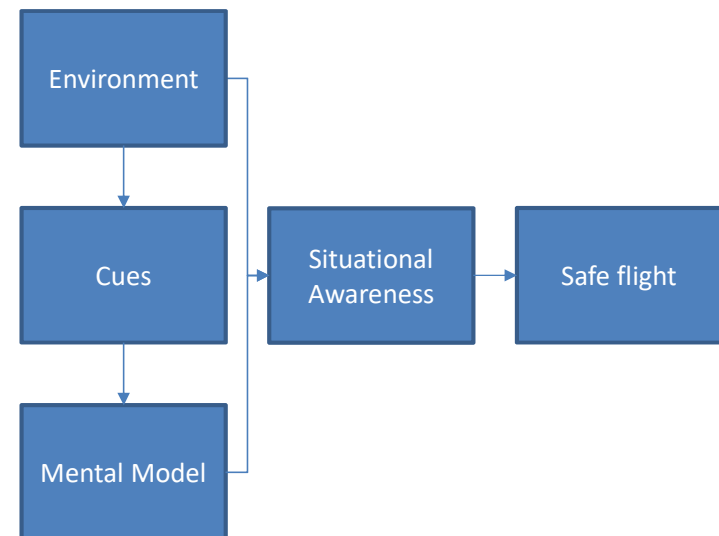
# Situational Awareness

Appreciating all you need to know about what is going on, relating to the task at hand.  
Or,  
What?, So What? and What Next?

Long term memory structures  
(mental models)  
+  
Comparison to the environment  
=  
Understanding of the current situation.

*Sensory channels* (visual, auditory, etc.)  
detect changes in the environment.

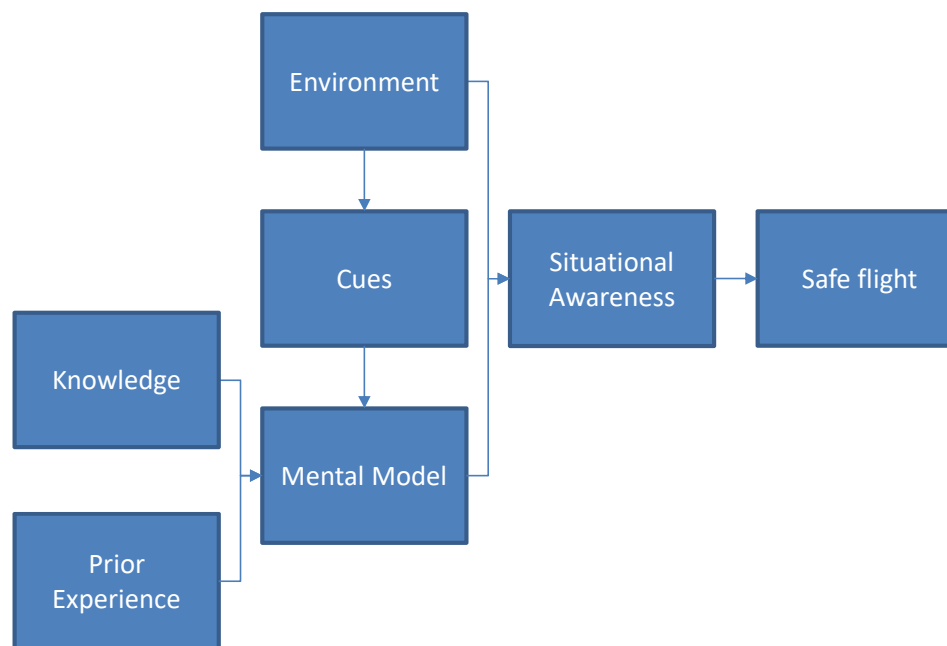
*Attentional processes* select, organise and  
interpret the data from the senses.



# Mental Models

Mental models are representations of the world, based on the Pilot's:

- Knowledge
- Experience
- Ability to Sense and Perceive Cues





What does it truly  
mean to be  
flying in the now?