### Human Factors Problems Of Flying Wingless Lifting Body Vehicles



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## **Disclosure** Information



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#### I have no financial relationships to disclose.

I will not discuss off-label use and/or investigational use in my presentation

# **Lifting Body Configurations**















## **Ballistic Capsules**









# **Lifting Reentry**









## **Advantages of Lifting Bodies**

Increased mission flexibility and versatility Greater reentry cross-range than capsule Reduced *g*-loading and reentry heating Conventional seating arrangement Capable of precision runway landing





#### **Human Factors Challenges**

Pilot workload – Vehicle was prone to longitudinal and lateral oscillations Pilot-induced oscillation – Simulation predicted potential for PIO Simulation fidelity – Early simulator design was poor Need for increased attention to Human Factors Engineering





#### Case Study 1: Milt Thompson, M2-F2, 12 July 1966

**Pilot-Induced Oscillation** 

Habit Pattern Transfer

Lack of Simulation Fidelity





#### Case Study 2: Bruce Peterson, M2-F2, 10 May 1967

Habit Pattern Transfer

**Spatial Disorientation** 

Distraction

**Task Saturation** 







### Lifting Body HFE Lessons

#### **Accurate Simulation**

Practice in the simulator reinforces cognitive habit patterns

#### Human-Machine Interface Logical placement of cockpit displays and controls

Automated Flight Management Systems Appropriate use of automation

Learning from past experience is fundamental to the development of safe and efficient new systems and to improving existing systems.

Future mishaps might be avoided through the collection, archiving, and study of data on past accidents and incidents to learn valuable lessons.

## Resources





Books and eBooks available http://www.nasa.gov/

## **Questions?**



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