SRM Task & Workload Scan Tool

Detecting Task Stacking Before Performance Degrades (Single-Pilot Operations)

Purpose

To provide a quick mental scan that helps single pilots recognise task stacking and workload creep early — before saturation or loss of margin occurs.

When to Use

Use this scan whenever workload begins to rise, interruptions occur, conditions deteriorate, or the flight starts to feel "busy".

How to Use

This scan can be run mentally in under 30 seconds. Pause, stabilise the flight path, then work through each section deliberately.

1. What Am I Doing Now?

Identify the primary task currently consuming your attention.
Is it essential to aircraft control or safety right now?

2. What Else Is Competing for Attention?

List additional tasks competing for cognitive bandwidth.
Are there open loops or incomplete actions?

3. What Can Wait?

Identify any non-critical tasks that can be deferred without consequence.
Actively decide to delay them.

4. What Has Changed?

Has anything changed in weather, environment, timing, automation, or expectations that increases workload?

5. Where Is My Margin?

Assess time, fuel, weather, and mental capacity margin.
Is margin increasing, stable, or decreasing?

6. What Is the Next Safe Action?

Choose one deliberate action that preserves margin and reduces workload.

Workload Scan Rule

If workload feels normal but tasks are stacking, margin is already eroding.

Carry-Forward Habit

Trigger this scan whenever the thought "I'm busy but okay" appears.