



PILOT INCAPACITATION AND CREW COMMUNICATION

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The Mission of IFALPA is:

**To promote the highest level of
aviation safety worldwide;**

**Be the global advocate
of the piloting profession;**

**Providing representation, services
and support to both our members
and the aviation industry.**

Objective

To familiarise you with in-flight incapacitation and how it is managed by the flight crew.



Overview

Definition.

Causes.

Classification.

Controlling the Risk.

Recognition.

Managing.

Crew Training.





Definition

Any physiological or psychological condition which adversely affects the flight crew performance in flight.

Causes

- **Medical Issues.**
- **Fatigue.**
- **Fume Event.**
- **Hypoxia.**
- **Bird or Drone Strike.**
- **Laser Strike.**





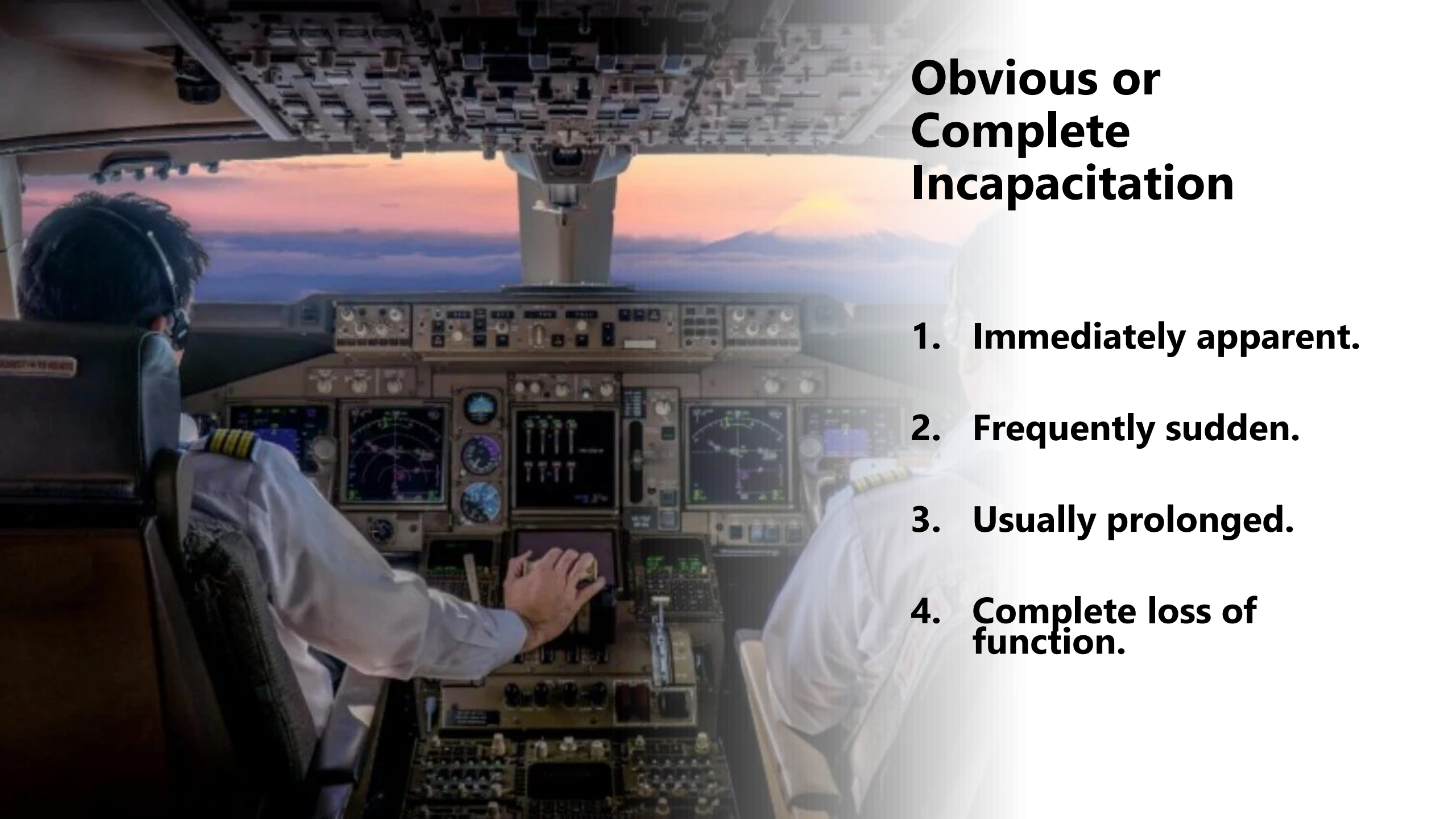
Classification of Incapacitation

1. **Subtle incapacitation.**
2. **Obvious incapacitation.**



Subtle or Incomplete Incapacitation

- 1. Partial in nature.**
- 2. Duration short.**
- 3. Difficult to detect.**
- 4. Presents an operational hazard.**



Obvious or Complete Incapacitation

- 1. Immediately apparent.**
- 2. Frequently sudden.**
- 3. Usually prolonged.**
- 4. Complete loss of function.**

Controlling the Risk of Incapacitation



1. **SOPs and Monitoring.**
2. **Communication.**
3. **Food Poisoning.**
4. **Fatigue Countermeasures.**
5. **Aeromedical Certification.**



Recognising Incapacitation

1. **Strict adherence to SOPs.**
2. **Monitoring and cross-checking.**
3. **Challenge and response concept.**
4. **Crew concept.**
5. **“Two Communication Rule”.**

Two Communication Rule

A photograph of two pilots in a cockpit, viewed from behind. They are wearing white uniforms and headsets. The cockpit is filled with various instruments, screens, and control panels. The lighting is somewhat dim, suggesting an interior view.

- **Appropriate response to:**
 - **Two verbal communications or,**
 - **Any verbal communication associated with a significant deviation from a standard operating procedure or a standard flight profile.**



Dealing with Incapacitation

1. **Maintain control the aircraft.**
2. **Take care of the incapacitated crew member.**
3. **Manage the cockpit and prepare for a landing.**

Crew Training

- Classroom.
- Simulator.



Summary

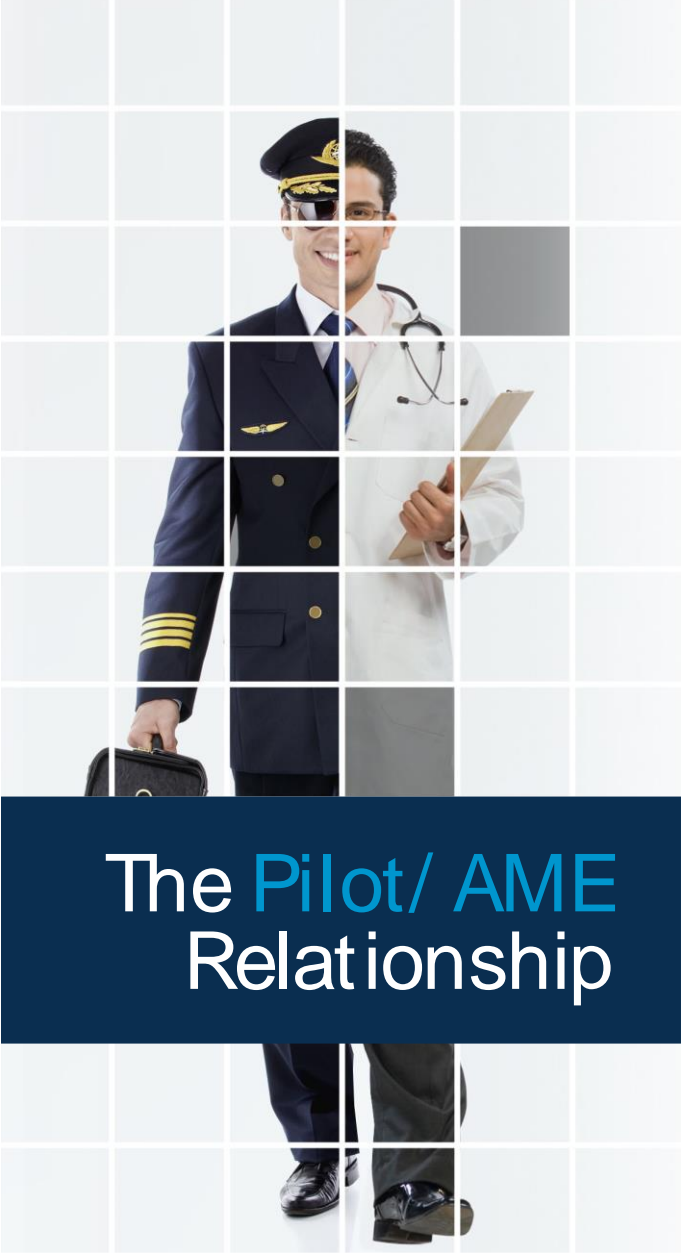
A large commercial airplane is shown from a rear-quarter perspective, flying over a city at sunset. The sky is filled with soft, golden and orange clouds, and the city lights are visible in the distance. The airplane's tail fin, wings, and landing gear are clearly visible.

1. **Speak up.**
2. **“Two Communication Rule”.**
3. **Basic steps:**
 - **Take control.**
 - **Care of the incapacitated pilot.**
 - **Prepare for landing.**

Conclusion

**An in-flight incapacitation
requires special actions and
good judgment of the
remaining crew
member left in command of
the aeroplane**





The Pilot/ AME Relationship



European Society of Aerospace Medicine