Decision making pervades every aspect of life: people make hundreds of decisions every day. The vast majority of these are trivial and without a right or wrong answer. In some respects there is also nothing extraordinary about pilot decision making. It is only the setting that is different - the underlying cognitive processes are just the same. However, it is the context and the consequences of a poor decision which serve to differentiate aeronautical decision making. Decisions on the flight deck are often made with incomplete information and while under time pressure. The implications for inadequate performance is much more serious than in many other professions. Poor decisions are implicated in over half of all aviation accidents.

This volume contains key papers published over the last 25 years providing an overview of the major paradigms by which aeronautical decision making has been investigated. Furthermore, decision making does not occur in isolation. It is a joint function of the flight tasks; knowledge; equipment on the flight deck and other stressors. In this volume of collected papers, works from leading authors in the field consider all these aspects of aeronautical decision making.

Contents
Introduction. Part I Approaches to the Study of Aeronautical Decision Making: Taking stock of naturalistic decision making, Raanan Lipshitz, Gary Klein, Judith Orasanu and Eduardo Salas; Aeronautical decision making: metaphors, models, and methods, David O’Hare; Force management decision requirements for air force tactical command and control, Joseph G. Wohl; Why classical decision theory is an inappropriate standard for evaluating and aiding most human decision making, Lee Roy Beach and Raanan Lipshitz; Decision-making in the cockpit, Judith M. Orasanu; Judgement and decision making by individuals and teams: issues, models, and applications, Kathleen L. Mosier and Ute M. Fischer. Part II Training Aeronautical Decision Making: Decision making training for aircrew, Glyn David; Enhancing aeronautical decision making through case-based reflection, David O’Hare, Nadia Mullen and Adele Arnold; Training the naturalistic decision maker, Marvin S. Cohen, Jared T. Freeman and Bryan B. Thompson; A systems approach to training aeronautical decision making: from identifying training needs to verifying training solutions, W.-C. Li and D. Harris. Part III Automation and Aeronautical Decision Making: Humans: still vital after all these years of automation, Raja Parasuraman and Christopher D. Wickens; Automation and decision making, Jan Noyes; Automation bias: decision making and performance in high-tech cockpits, Kathleen L. Mosier, Linda J. Skitka, Susan Heers and Mark Burdick; Automation bias in intelligent time critical decision support systems, M.L. Cummings; Impact of automation on aircrew communication and decision-making performance, Clint Bowers, John Deaton, Randy Oser, Carolyn Prince and Michele Kolb. Part IV Distributed Decision Making: Flight decks and free flight: where are the system boundaries?, Erik Hollnagel; The breakdown of coordinated decision making in distributed systems, Christopher Bearman, Susannah B.F. Paletz, Judith Orasanu and Matthew J.W. Thomas; Automation in future air traffic management: effects of decision aid reliability on controller performance and mental workload, Ulla Metzger and Raja Parasuraman. Part V Some Factors Affecting Aeronautical Decision Making: The causal factors of aviation accidents related to decision errors in the cockpit by system approach, Wen-Chin Li; Expertise differences in attentional strategies related to pilot decision making, Angela T. Schriver, Daniel G. Morrow, Christopher D. Wickens and Donald A. Talleur; The effects of stress on pilot judgment in a MIDIS simulator, Christopher D. Wickens, Alan Stokes, Barbara Barnett and Fred Hyman; Factors affecting the decision making of pilots who fly in outback Australia, Dana J. Michalski and Christopher Bearman; Incompatible goals, uncertain information and conflicting incentives: the dispatch dilemma, Kip Smith; Heuristic-based information acquisition and decision making among pilots, Mark W. Wiggins and Sandra Bollwerk. Name index.

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