

CASE STUDY 6

VISUALISATION AS A DEBRIEF TOOL

EVENT

An aircraft of an FDS customer was on approach when the crew initiated a go-around. During the subsequent climb-phase a serious reduction in air speed had resulted in a number of stalls.

There was considerable confusion surrounding the event; the flight data was difficult to interpret and other conflicting information - including the crew's denial of the incident - confused matters even further.

INVESTIGATION

In such instances FDS refer to engineering data, crew reports and flight safety reports to clarify exactly what has happened. However, on occasion this information requires a deeper level of analysis in order to accurately identify and explain an event. In these instances FDS use their visualisation tool to provide the comprehensive information required by event investigators.

SOLUTION

FDS produced a visualisation showing the incident both from the flight instruments and from external views of the aircraft. This allowed the safety department to present the incident visually to the crews, training department and the company management. Engineering investigations identified a serious control system malfunction and the visualisation highlighted the expertise of the crews in the handling of the aircraft under extreme flight conditions.

CONCLUSION

FDS' visualisation tool generates a clear and compelling, visual presentation of flight data. It is an excellent interactive debriefing tool that enhances both training and operational efficiency.