



Sports Flying Academy -0800-001-931

Spider cheat sheet

WHAT IS SPIDERTRACKS

Spider Tracks is a satellite flight tracking and alerting service. It consists of a small portable unit that is hard wired into the aircraft. Once activated on take-off the spider will send a position report to a ground based server located at the Spider tracks data centre every 2 minutes.

These position reports can be viewed online and the current aircraft position, altitude, speed and heading viewed in real time. Should the ground station not receive a position report from the spider unit in the aircraft it will automatically create an alert. An alert is a text and/or email that will be sent first to what is called our "tier one" contacts advising that there is a problem with the aircraft. If the tier one contacts cannot establish that the aircraft is safe and cancel the alert then the alert is sent 15 minutes later to our "tier two" contacts.

The tier two contacts include the Search and Rescue Coordination Centre in Wellington and a search is instantly launched. Unlike other tracking systems the Spider Tracks system does not rely on the airborne unit to survive a crash. If the unit is destroyed in a crash then the alert will still be created as it is the ground station that creates the alert when it no longer receives replies from the airborne unit.

Another major difference is that your flights are actively monitored and alerts automatically generated. This means that you can go flying confident in the knowledge that should you experience an emergency then people will be notified in the shortest possible time and search and rescue action will be started. The unit costs about NZ\$5.00 per hour to operate and is a fantastic feature to have on board the aircraft.





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ACTIVATION

The Spider unit is mounted on top of the panel in TST. The Spider will automatically switch on when you turn on the master switch in TST. All the lights will flash as the unit initialises. Once a satellite signal has been acquired the light on the far right of the unit will turn from orange to green.

The Spider Watch feature will activate automatically after the aircraft accelerates through 40 knots on take-off. Once it activates the Blue light at the top centre of the unit (The light above the blue watch button.) will come on solid. If it doesn't simply push the blue watch button once to turn it on. It will notify via email to the club that the aircraft has taken off and that Spiderwatch is active.

Spiderwatch actively monitors your flight and if the ground monitoring station loses contact with the Spider unit in the aircraft it will send an alert via email and text to our tier one contacts. Our tier one contacts are the instructor team as follows:

- Shaun Sutherland
- Bob Foster
- John Shaw

These instructors have been trained in what to do should they receive an alert.

If after 15 minutes the alert has not been cancelled by one of the above people it will generate another alert to via text and email to the following tier 2 contacts.

- Shaun Sutherland
- Bob Foster
- John Shaw
- The Rescue Coordination Centre in Wellington

The Search and Rescue Coordination Centre in Wellington will launch a search. If anyone receives an alert they can go to the following web site to identify where the aircraft is. If your family or friends would like to follow your flight they can visit here as well. No password is required.

www.sportsflyingacademy.co and click on the "Follow us" link.

This site also gives details on what to do if an alert is received.



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DEACTIVATION

Once landed spider watch **must** be terminated by the pilot. This is **extremely** important. If you don't follow this procedure and ensure that you have terminated your spider watch an alert will be generated and it will be acted on. There are **no** second chances so please be very careful here. (If you do create an alert inadvertently please phone the tier one contacts above and let them know.)

The middle solid blue light will be illuminated when you land. To terminate Spider watch the aircraft must be at a complete halt. This is best done once you have vacated the runway on the non-active side of the holding point.

Press the blue watch button on the unit once. The blue light above the button will flash. The spider will send a Spiderwatch message to the website and the website will reply with a confirmation message. When the spider receives this the blue monitor light will stop flashing. You can now shut down the aircraft. The blue light could take up to 2 minutes to stop flashing. **DO NOT CUT POWER TO THE SPIDER UNIT UNTIL THE BLUE LIGHT STOPS FLASHING.**

MANUAL ALERTS

Manual alerts can be sent as well should you find yourself requiring urgent assistance. Alerts are sent to mobile phones via text as well as email addresses to all tier one contacts.

- Press the far right mark button three times will send a "request for assistance" message via email and text to the tier one contacts. Use this if you need assistance but Search and rescue are **not** required and this is a **non-life threatening** emergency.
- Press far right mark button four times will send a MAYDAY message via email and text to the tier one contacts. **ONLY USE THIS IN A REAL MAYDAY SITUATION.**