

Leadplane Training Lesson Plan

Initial Briefing

02-01-N9065-HO

Objective:

To familiarize the student with the initial briefing script (Phase 1).

To develop the student's proficiency in the use of the initial briefing (Phase 2).

Content:

The NWCG SAS table for initial briefings lists the content and order for the initial briefing. For standardization purposes the order of the content should be followed.

Initial Briefing

- Altimeter Setting – There is no reason to use the word “altimeter” or “in the window”.
- Clearance Altitude – Altitude the tanker will enter the FTA.
- ATGS Altitude – Altitude of the ATGS.
- Other Aircraft Altitudes – To include fixed wing and rotor wing aircraft.
- In Route Hazards – Hazards the tanker may encounter between receiving the initial briefing and the operations area.

On larger fires an Initial Point (IP) may need to be given with the initial briefing.

Depending on the situation, the initial briefing can be broken up into multiple transitions. If the leadplane is flying a live run or show me run and a tanker calls in at 12 miles, the briefing can be temporarily abbreviated to the altimeter and clearance altitude. This way the inbound tanker can continue to the fire and the leadplane can focus on the show me run. The rest of the initial briefing can be given when the leadplane has finished the run.

Initial briefings should be practiced on the ground. This briefing should be memorized so that it takes very little effort while flying the aircraft.

The initial briefing should be given each time a tanker comes to the fire. Tankers may call at 12 miles and use the phrase “with the numbers”. This term is nonstandard and has not been identified in the NWCG SAS. Its use should not be encouraged. Give each tanker an initial briefing. Tactics and altitudes can change while the tanker is away from the fire on a load and return.

Completion Standards:

The lesson is complete when the student can demonstrate the initial briefing in a training environment for Phase 1 and in a fire environment for Phase 2. The student will perform the briefing with minimal deficiencies noted and it will be accomplished without the reliance on the evaluator.