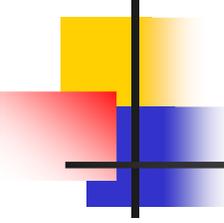


The Aircraft Dispatcher

*“One stop shopping”
source of information
for the pilot*





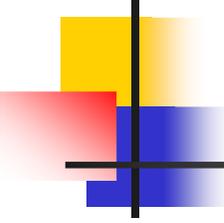
What is a Dispatcher?

- A licensed airman who has joint responsibility with the captain for the safety and operational control of flights under his/her control.

What is Operational Control?

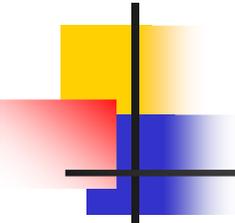


- n Issuing Dispatch release
- n Monitoring all phases of flight
- n Monitoring weather
- n Delays, diverts or cancels flights if safety jeopardized



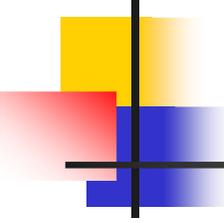
Scope of Authority

§ 121.593 Dispatching authority: Domestic operations. Except when an airplane lands at an intermediate airport specified in the original dispatch release and remains there for not more than one hour, no person may start a flight unless an aircraft dispatcher specifically authorizes that flight.



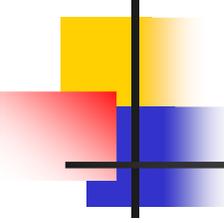
Exposure to problems/emergencies

- n The seven major airlines have a combined fleet of 3500 aircraft.
- n They operate approximately 20,000 flights per day.
- n They employ almost 50,000 pilots
- n They employ 1,000 dispatchers



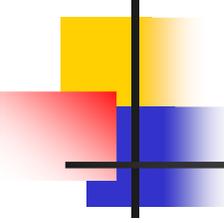
Types of problems

- n Mechanical
- n Weather
- n ATC
- n Security
- n Passenger



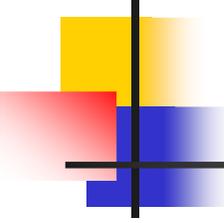
Mechanical Problems

- n Dispatchers are trained on: aircraft systems for each type of aircraft operated.
- n Aircraft performance and limitations.
- n Emergency and abnormal procedures
- n MEL/CDL restrictions



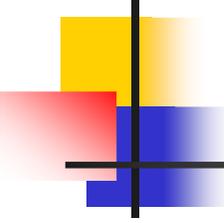
Weather Problems

- n Thunderstorms
- n Turbulence
- n Icing
- n Restrictions to visibility



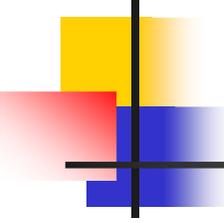
ATC Problems

- n Airport capacity
- n Airway/sector saturation
- n Ground delay programs
- n Strategic and tactical rerouting
- n Airport/Enroute navigational aids
- n Suitable Airports



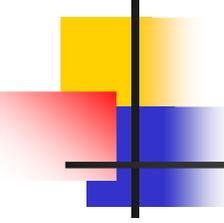
Security Problems

- n Specific threats such as bomb threats and hijackings
- n HAZMAT
- n Unknown substance spills



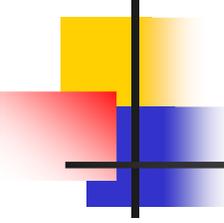
Passenger Problems

- n Passenger illness/injury
- n Customer service issues
- n Passenger assistance



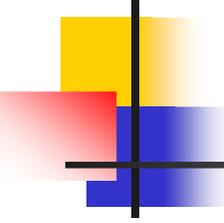
Decision making concerns

- n Time
- n Suitable airport
- n Fuel
- n Aircraft weight/performance
- n Crew Qualification
- n Weather
- n Field conditions
- n ATC
- n Passenger service (stairs, fueling, customs)
- n CFR



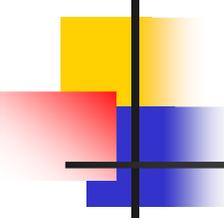
Dispatch Resources

- n Worldwide Communications capability
- n Current and forecasted weather
- n Maintenance technical support
- n Local and Federal security contacts.
- n Direct communications with ATC facilities



More Dispatch resources

- n Medical assistance
- n Flight following tools such as Flight Explorer, Passur, CTAS, FMS, ITWS



Conclusion

- n The aircraft dispatcher has all the tools and resources to help a pilot reach a safe and efficient resolution to almost any abnormal or emergency situation.