

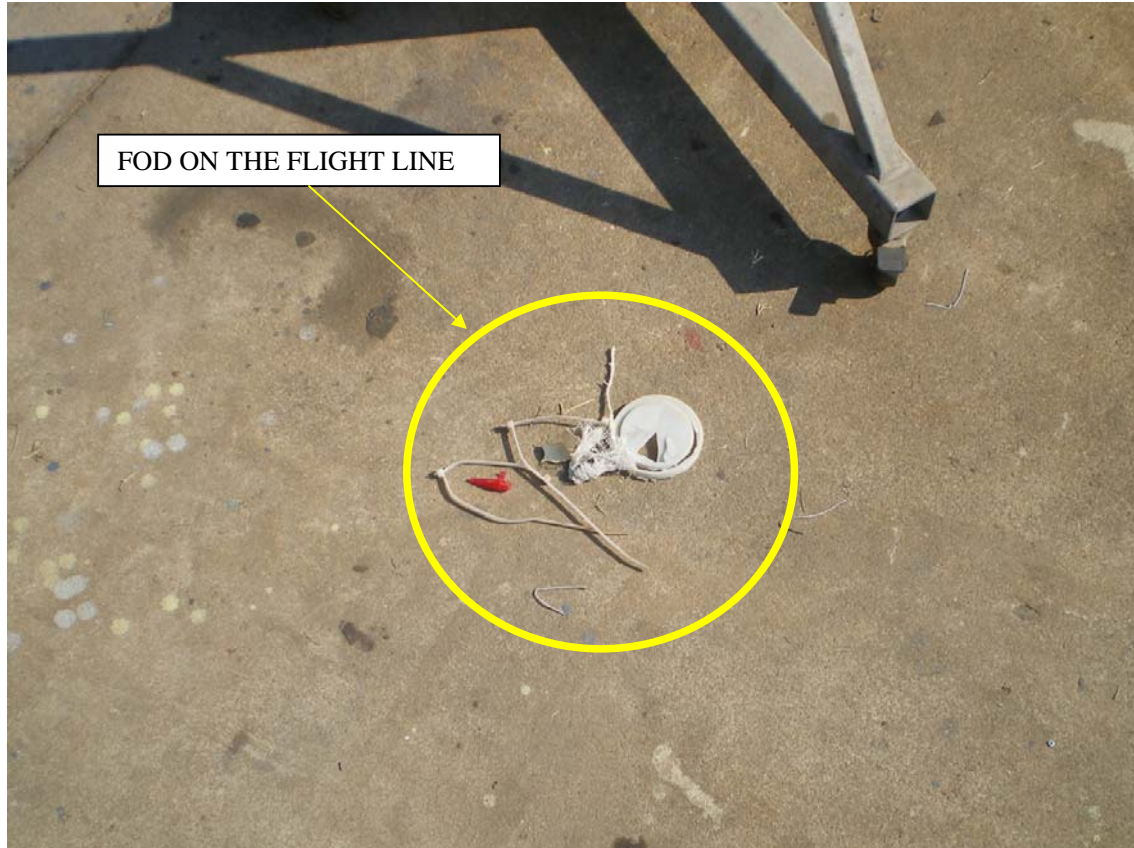


VIRGINIA FLIGHT SCHOOL SAFETY ARTICLE – NO 10/08

FOREIGN OBJECT DEBRIS/DAMAGE

Definition – Foreign Object Debris. FOD is a substance, debris or article alien to aircraft or aviation systems which could potentially cause damage.

Definition – Foreign Object Damage. Foreign Object Damage is any damage attributed to a foreign object that can be expressed in *physical or economic terms*(Injury to people/damage to property?) that degrades safety or performance characteristics.



EXAMPLE OF POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF FOD

After a thorough pre-flight inspection the pilot set off to do basic aerobatics in a 152 Aerobat. While performing a roll at 4500' the ailerons jammed in full deflection. Fortunately he was able to recover at 3500' and land successfully.

An AME examined the aircraft controls and found an upholstery screw lodged in the aileron control chain on the control column that caused the control wheel mechanism to jam. The consequences could just as well have been fatal.

FOD CONTROL

1. Awareness. Identify and eliminate FOD. Be aware of the potential consequences of FOD.
2. Responsibility. Accept responsibility for the eradication of FOD. All it takes is a little diligence, professionalism and belief in a job well done.