



December 2023 Newsletter

### **Mike Goulian Aviation Pro Tip of the Month - Engine Care**

By CFII Gordon Landale

As we fly deeper into the colder weather season, it's important to remember to take extra care of your airplane. This includes applying proper starting techniques on the cold starts. Following the below procedures will keep your engine healthy and happy.

- 1) Check your CHT and Oil temperatures before start. You're looking for at least 50° F.
- 2) Apply the appropriate priming and starting procedure for your model.
- 3) Limit cranking to 10 second intervals with 20 seconds in between for the SR22 and 30 seconds in between for the SR20.
- 4) If after your third attempt, let it rest for at least two minutes. This will allow your starter to cool down. While waiting, open your throttle and pull the mixture to idle to clear any fuel in the lines.

If the starter is engaged for periods longer than the starter limits in the Pilot's Operating Handbook (POH) you can damage the starter by overheating it.

With our pre-heaters, we keep our engine temps above 50 degrees. This allows the oil to be viscous enough to sufficiently lubricate all engine parts. Failure to do so, may result in excessive and unnecessary wear and tear on your engine. Such damage may not be readily apparent and result in dangerous or at the least, costly maintenance repairs later.

This information can also be found in your POH (Section 4) and iFOM (Chapter 2, Section 5). We have a quick link to POH's here: <https://mikegoulianaviation.com/pohs/>