

Partial Engine Failures

Every situation is different, along with the engine and airplane involved, but the following may be useful when troubleshooting a partial engine failure.

USE THE ENGINE MONITOR

If you pay attention to what it's indicating, you can identify the cylinder and spark plug that's failed or fouled, confirm the mags are or are not operating correctly, or identify which injector is clogged and needs cleaning.

USE THE AUTOPILOT

Regardless of whether you're about to turn into a glider, you still need to fly the airplane, perhaps now more than ever. It'd be great if the other front-seater was a pilot—so one of you can fly while the other troubleshoots—but someone still has to fly the airplane. Let George handle the basic stuff.

USE EVERYTHING AVAILABLE

Do it methodically and without panic, but manipulate every engine- and fuel-related switch and control in the panel to try to find a combination under which the engine will run most smoothly.

