COMMUNICATIONS FOR **CLASS D** OPERATIONS (i.e. Easterwood)

Your speech is in blue

The ATC speech is in red

LEAVING an airport in CLASS D airspace

First, listen to **ATIS** (automated terminal information system) on *126.85* (varies at different airports). This gives you the current winds, clouds, barometric pressure and other pertinent info about the airport. The info is updated hourly or sooner as needed. This info is identified by letter such as information **G**olf.

Next tune to **Ground Control** (at Easterwood, use 128.7). Listen to others if anyone is talking. Also, notice which way airplanes are taking off and landing so you can expect what runway you will be cleared to. When you do call ground, tell them you have information _____, where you are, your general direction of flight from the airport or request to stay in the pattern, and if leaving the airport, your initial altitude and that you are ready to taxi.

You: Easterwood ground this is *N9925Q* (or whichever aircraft you are in) with information _____.

ATC: 25Q, Easterwood ground, go ahead

You: 25Q is on the north ramp, departing to the southeast, climbing to 1800, ready to taxi.

ATC: 25Q, taxi via Alpha to runway 16

You: 25Q, taxi via Alpha, runway 16.

Note: If hold short instructions are given such as **"Hold short runway 22"**, you must do two things. 1) Respond with **"Hold short 22"**. This is called readback and all hold instructions require readback. 2). You **must hold at the hold line until cleared to cross or continue.**

Monitor Ground Control during taxi out and run up. When you are ready to take off, move slowly up to the hold short line. Switch frequencies to the tower (118.5 at Easterwood).

You: Easterwood tower, *N9925Q* is ready for departure runway 16

ATC: 25Q, cleared for take off, fly runway heading until reaching 1000, turn right on course. IF the tower says "25Q position and hold", this means to taxi out to the centerline and stop until further clearance. As with any HOLD instruction, readback and compliance is mandatory.

You: 25Q, cleared for departure. Proceed out and take off and follow departure instructions.

ENTERING CLASS D AIRSPACE for landing (i.e. Easterwood)

Your speech is in blue

The ATC speech is in red

About 20 miles out, tune **ATIS** (automated terminal information system) on *126.85* (varies at different airports). Particularly note the wind direction and runway in use so that you can anticipate what runway will be assigned. Also note what revision the current ATIS is.

You: Easterwood tower, this is *N9925Q* (or whichever aircraft you are in)

ATC: 25Q Easterwood tower, go ahead

You: 25Q is about 10 miles southwest (or wherever you are) with information ____ landing Easterwood.

ATC: 25Q enter a right downwind for runway 16, report midfield (or abeam the tower)

You: Right downwind Run16, report midfield 25Q.

Fly toward the airport and determine which runway is 16. Plan your descent so that you are at pattern altitude (typically 1000 AGL) when you enter downwind. Watch for other approaching and departing traffic. Continue until reaching midfield.

You: Easterwood tower, 25Q is right downwind 16 midfield.

ATC: 25Q, cleared to land runway 16.

If there is additional landing traffic, you may be told to following traffic on base or final and you are "Number 2" Identify the traffic and comply. You may also be asked to extend downwind or even make short downwind for traffic spacing. If you are not sure of an instruction, ask for clarity. ATC is there to help.

After landing:

ATC: 25Q, speed permitting, turn left on taxiway Charlie. Remain this frequency to the ramp (instead of contacting ground on another frequency).

If the tower says to contact ground, clear the runway pass the hold short line, change to the ground control frequency and contact ground control for taxi instructions.

You: Left on Charlie, this frequency to the ramp.

Taxi to parking, shut down, get out and kiss the ground!