



## **Bakersfield Composite Squadron #121**

## **60-Second Safety Advisor #57**

### **Leave Yourself an Out**

Pilots routinely scan the ground below for emergency landing spots that they could use in the event of an engine failure or other emergency. We should follow a similar routine while driving our vehicles. We should always be looking ahead for potential escape routes in case an emergency suddenly occurs in our lane ahead of us.

If we allow ourselves to get boxed-in by other cars or if we follow too closely, we will greatly limit our options if something happens in front of us. It doesn't take much to bring traffic to a sudden stop and we need to leave ourselves time and space to react.

We should routinely play the "what-if" game in our minds and think through various scenarios. Where would I go if the car in front of me comes to a screeching stop? What if my car's engine stopped right now – what would I do? There are endless potential scenarios and the more you think about them, the more prepared you will be if you find yourself in an actual emergency situation. So keep your situational awareness high, play the "what-if" game, and leave yourself an out!

