Speaking of Standard Instrument Departures …

I totally agree on the threat analysis by Hans Houtman and Dick Van Eck (ASW, 4/08, p. 34) and am really pleased by the spirit of the paper, which reflects a true spirit of collaboration between cockpit and controller. In the same spirit, I would like to raise a related issue.

There is no reason why the name of the standard instrument departure issued by the controller has to be different from what the crew finds in the flight management system.

Taking off from Milan Malpensa on a Saronno 6H, on the FMS (no matter which airplane are you flying), you will find: SRN 6H.

Quite often, and in several countries, the accent of the controller results in pronouncing the name in the local way, and the pilot from the other side of the world may understand a different name and enter a different SID. The readback will not always help.

In my opinion, this is a situation that can easily lead to an error, and the solution would be easy: just let everybody call the same SID with the same (simple) name.

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