

## The Smoker on the Roof

A pilot was flying a helicopter through a dense fog bank near a city. As might be expected, he was nervous.

When the fog momentarily broke, he saw a tall building with a man having a smoke on the rooftop deck.

The pilot maneuvered the helicopter close to the deck and shouted to the man on the roof, "Where am I?"

The man shouted back, "You're in a helicopter."

The pilot then executed a 180-degree turn, set a course on his instruments, and flew blindly through the fog without error to an airport a few miles away.

When he was asked by airport personnel how he managed to get there safely without being able to see much, he answered, "When I asked that guy on the roof a simple question, he gave me a useless, smart-aleck answer. I knew right away that he had to work at the help desk of the software company our firm uses.

I also knew that the software company has offices south by southeast from the airport. Once I knew that, I knew where to go."

There is a time for humor, and a time not to crack jokes. It's not so funny to be giving flip responses in a serious situation. In such circumstances, we should seek to be a help and not a hindrance.

Be wise – and not a wise guy!

– Beecher Hunter

