Ground Controls

The very heart of FlightCheck is based upon a powerful feature called the "Ground Controls". These are custom preferences that serve as the rules for how FlightCheck should conduct its examination and determine exactly what constitutes an "error". You can instruct FlightCheck to report on specific items from several different categories, allowing you to expand your document checking possibilities as you desire.

Ground Controls Categories
The Ground Controls are divided into 8 general categories which allows you to sweep through the flightchecking process section by section. Select "Show Ground Controls" from the FlightCheck® menu, or press command+G, and the Ground Controls window will appear. Click on any of the category buttons to expand the window into that category.

Reclick the category button to collapse the window.

Click the expansion arrow on the right side of the window to view the sub-sections of the category, or reclick to collapse the category.

Controls Lock
At the upper left corner is the Controls Lock.   When this icon is shown in the "locked" state, it means you cannot change any settings.

To unlock or relock the Controls, simply click on the icon.

Selecting a Control
To select or deselect a control, simply click on the checkbox.

An unchecked box informs FlightCheck to ignore this item.

A checked box informs FlightCheck to use this item during its investigations.

A black framed unchecked box means the item was found to be used by the document and could therefore be a possible item you might want FlightCheck to eventually verify. Simply check the box to do so. A good preflighter should always visually inspect the Ground Controls for these framed boxes.

A red framed checked box will signify FlightCheck has detected some sort of problem. Uncheck this box to inform FlightCheck to assume the item in question is no longer a "problem".

The Default Set
FlightCheck always keeps an internal set called the "Default" set. It is important to note that all Ground Controls sets (or file sets) share this Default set and for this reason it is recommended you always create your own custom sets to achieve more flexibility.

Ground Controls Sets
You can create your own customized sets of Ground Controls by selecting "New Set…" from the pop-up menu and entering a name.

    The currently selected set will have a checkmark next to its name on the menu.

Selecting a Set

To activate a particular set, simply select it from the menu. FlightCheck will then re-examine the document and report its findings based upon the new settings.

Rename Set
Select this item in order to change the name of the current Ground Controls set.

Delete Set
Select this item in order to remove the current set. Note that if you delete the "Default" set, FlightCheck will revert to its standard built-in settings.

Ground Controls Files
Ground Controls files are a saved group of Ground Controls sets. These files can be given to your Service Bureau in order to communicate to them the particular preferences which were used to check the job.

Loading Ground Controls
Use this item to locate and load a previously saved Ground Controls file.

Saving Ground Controls
Select this item (which will only be active when a non-Default set is currently selected) to save the current group of Ground Controls sets to a file.

Ground Controls Password
Select this item to set or change the password for the currently loaded Ground Controls file. The password controls access to the controls lock, as well as the rename and delete commands. Note that a password applies to all sets of the current Ground Controls, not just the current set.

Printing Ground Controls
Simply select "Print Ground Controls…" from the FlightCheck® menu.

Ground Controls Window Title
Click the Ground Controls window's title while holding down the control key to toggle showing the actual name of the current set.

The Ground Controls set name will likewise be appended to the Main window if it has also been set (control-click) for displaying the full titles.

Application-Specific Ground Controls
You can select which Ground Controls set to use whenever you open a specific file type. The proper way to do this is by first creating a new set and then saving the Ground Controls to a file. Then, open a document and select "Set Application Controls…" from the FlightCheck® menu, or click on the gray application button on the Ground Controls window.

Next, select the application's button.

When an application specific set has been chosen, the application's icon will then appear on the Ground Controls window.

Thereafter, whenever you open a document created by this application, the designated Ground Controls set will be automatically employed to perform the checking, thus eliminating the need to manual switch Ground Control sets whenever you are checking various types of documents.