



# HSAC-RP

No. 90-1

## HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE-RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

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### Helicopter/Tanker Operations

#### Background

The interface of helicopters and tankers during shipboard helicopter operations is complex and may be hazardous unless appropriate procedures are coordinated among all parties. The following recommended practices will minimize risks during helicopter/tanker operations.

#### Recommended Practice

1. Management, operations, and pilots should be familiar with and apply the operating safety standards set forth in "Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations", International Chamber of Shipping, Third Edition, 5-89 (as amended), establishing operational guidelines / standards and safe practices sufficient to safeguard helicopter/tanker operations.
2. Appropriate plans, approvals, and communications must be accomplished prior to reaching the vessel, allowing tanker crews sufficient time to perform required safety preparations and position crew members to receive or dispatch a helicopter safely.
3. Appropriate approvals and direct communications with the bridge of the tanker must be maintained throughout all helicopter/tanker operations.
4. Helicopter/tanker operations, including landings/departures, shall not be conducted until the helicopter Pilot-in-Command has received and acknowledged permission from the bridge of the tanker.
5. Helicopter/tanker operations shall not be conducted during product/cargo transfer.
6. Generally, permission will not be granted to land on tankers during mooring operations or while maneuvering alongside another tanker.

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