

HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE
September 19, 2002
MINUTES

INTRODUCTION

Chairman, Dave Milling, opened the meeting at 09:00 and welcomed the Membership.

- Because meeting rooms at the Clarion were occupied by other clients (Maytag), breakfast and lunch would be served in the spacious, common area at the Hampton Inn.
- The Chairman asked attendees for individual introductions.

Rick Oeder, Era Aviation

- Thanks to Gary Tucker for the information on turbine fuel presented at the May meeting.
- Recognized the contribution of Walter Chartrand, Aviation Marketing Services.
- “Get more involved in your fuel. It’s one thing that will put you in the water.”
- Acknowledged that HSAC was the place to share experience common to the industry.
- Accident in Alaska proved worth of laser light safety equipment.
 - Ø Fan-shaped beam.
 - Ø Beam visible for 15-miles.
 - Ø More information contact Mr. Oeder at (337) 478-6131 or e-mail roeder@eraaviation.com.

John Davis, Evergreen, Treasurer

- Membership donations now fully support the Organization.
- Money is no longer collected at the door prior to the meeting.
- Invoices for 2003 will be going out soon.
- John acknowledged the Chairman’s invaluable assistance in soliciting and organizing the membership donation campaign.
- “Money at the door” was a barrier to entry.
- HSAC now better able to budget.

Bill Stiles, Shell, FAA Interface

- Thanked Henry Christensen, now retired, for his service to HSAC.
- Henry replaced by Don Day.

Don Day, FAA

- Henry Christensen retired from the FAA after 40-years service.
- HSAC and HAI, Ann Carroll, voicing opinions that impact our operations in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Marion Blakely new FAA Administrator.
 - Ø Safety in her repertoire.
 - Ø More attune to the needs of the Gulf.
 - Ø Communications and weather remain paramount issues.
- ChevronTexaco has moved operations to Picayune, MS and now works with Southeastern Region in Mississippi.
- Carol Might, ATP-30 Oceanic Procedures, replaces Brian Thrope.
Carol.Might@faa.gov

Mike Glass, Shell

- 20-years with the Royal Air Force and joined Shell in 1989.
- Harmonizing standards with the Shell organization.
- Mr. Glass offered an overview of the North Sea accident investigation of the SK76 main rotor blade failure that occurred in August 2002.
- Bill Stiles introduced Mr. Norman Ackerman, Logistics Manager, SEPCO.

Dave Milling

- For the “new faces,” Dave offered a brief history of HSAC.
 - Ø Impetus was the 1978 Puma accident.
 - Ø Spirit of cooperation among the operators.
 - Ø “Getting us to a safer place.”

Gary Tucker, Air Logistics

- Clear Deck Policy discussed.
- SK76 accident: Thanked Mike Glass for the briefing.
- Recommend Practice (RP) for passenger movement around running aircraft for both dual pilot and single pilot crewed aircraft.
- For single pilot aircraft, a designated HLO would increase helideck safety.
- gtucker@Air-Log.com

Jim Hicks

- Dealing with Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR)
- Combat Area Patrols
- Cape Canaveral effected by TFR
- Aboard the November Shuttle Launch will be an Israeli astronaut.
- Intercepts: Extremely smooth year.
- Yes, Jim attended the May 15th HSAC Meeting.

Lou D'Elia, ChevronTexaco

- Heliport Design Guide
 - Ø Formatting issue
 - Ø Forward to API
- IFR Work Group
 - Ø Name changed to Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Work Group
 - Ø Poor to non-existing VHF communications and inadequate weather reporting are the two primary safety issues effecting IFR delays in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Mr. D'Elia introduced Ann Carroll, HAI Legislative Assistant

Ann Carroll, Helicopter Association International (HAI) Legislative Assistant

- Presentation: "Low Level Helicopter Weather & Communications Infrastructure for Gulf of Mexico Airspace." This is an "Unsolicited Business Proposal Submitted to the FAA by the Helicopter Association International on behalf of Gulf Coast Helicopter Operators."
- There is support "on the Hill."
- Louisiana: Mary Landreiu and John Breaux
- Florida: John Mika (?), House Aviation Subcommittee
- Mississippi: Strong support from Senator Trent Lott.
- Texas: Phil Graham is leaving office.
- Copy of the presentation is available on e-mail.
- WHY haven't I heard from the Companies?
 - Ø The Operators and the Oil Companies have to get more proactively involved with their Representatives and Congressmen.
 - Ø Mail or fax letters. Fax is faster and best. Including a fax copy to Ms. Carroll would be most helpful.
 - Ø We all need to do a better job of keeping these issues in the forefront. Write and fax often.

- More support on the House side.
- “Put on Day Planner, ‘Send letter to Congressman or Senator’ every two months.”
- Industry must stay persistently involved.
- Ann Carroll, HAI Legislative Assistant: 1635 Prince Street; Alexandria, VA 22314-2818 Voice: (703) 683-4646 Fax: (703) 683-4745 E-Mail: ann.carroll@rotor.com Website: www.rotor.com

Lou D’Elia

- Get the unions onboard – Local 107, 108 and PHPA
- Automated mapping: Allow FAA to look at OuterLink data.
- Lou transferred to Angola, Africa. Perry McKinney may replace Lou in the ChevronTexaco organization.

Ann Carroll

- Heli-Expo Legislative Forum
 - Ø Need INDUSTRY in that meeting.
 - Ø Ms. Carroll will have Congressman, “people of rank,” with “decision making power” will be there.

The next HSAC Meeting is scheduled for January 15 and 16, 2003 in New Orleans, LA. Ann Carroll was invited to return for this meeting.