



2013 HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC) GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW

HSAC Members:

May 16, 2014

Please find attached the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference (HSAC) "2013 Gulf of Mexico (GoM) Offshore Helicopter Operations and Safety Review". The membership support and response from 11 helicopter operators for this review is not only appreciated, but vital in establishing a meaningful report.

The level of annual flying activity has remained relatively constant for the last several years. The number of single engine helicopters continues a slow decline, while the number of medium and heavy twin engine helicopters continues to increase.

The average number of accidents per year in the GoM since 1984 has been 8.1 per year with the last 10 years averaging 6.1 per year, with 3 for 2013. The 2013 GoM oil industry helicopter accident rate per 100,000 flight hours was 0.98 with a total of 3 accidents compared to a 29-year annual average accident rate of 1.65. The fatal accident rate per 100,000 flight hours during 2013 was 0.33 compared to a 29-year average of 0.46.

Since 1999, there have been 21 accidents of which 4 were fatal (19%), resulting in 11 fatalities and 15 injuries. The leading causes, not all inclusive, of the accidents since 1999 are listed below, and secondary causes of these events include 11 related to helideck size or design related issues.

- 21 engine related,
- 22 loss of control or improper procedures,
- 17 helideck obstacle strikes,
- 11 controlled flight into terrain, and
- 11 other technical failures

HSAC has published a number of Recommended Practices to address these issues and they can be reviewed at www.HSAC.org. We are optimistic that by widely and openly sharing this information with all operators and other oil industry groups that additional safety initiatives may be developed and implemented to further reduce accidents and incidents with an ultimate goal of zero events.

Respectively,

Bob Williams
HSAC Committee Member

HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC) 2013 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW



GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONAL DATA SUMMARY

YEAR	NUMBERS by TYPE HELICOPTER					PASSENGERS CARRIED	HOURS FLOWN	NUMBER OF FLIGHTS
	SINGLE ENGINE	LIGHT TWIN	MEDIUM TWIN	HEAVY TWIN	TOTAL FLEET			
2009	312	41	103	39	495	2,477,834	344,817	1,195,667
2010	314	43	103	23	483	2,330,527	334,067	938,690
2011	286	55	108	25	474	2,202,894	316,785	891,172
2012	275	67	111	28	481	2,278,780	316,685	894,439
2013*	248	54	122	34	458	2,245,928	305,755	809,346

* Data extracted from voluntary input of 11 helicopter operators in the Gulf of Mexico

GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONAL DATA DETAILS

YEAR	HOURS by TYPE HELICOPTER					OPERATIONS (Takeoff/Landings) by TYPE HELICOPTER				
	SINGLE ENGINE	LIGHT TWIN	MEDIUM TWIN	HEAVY TWIN	TOTAL FLEET	SINGLE ENGINE	LIGHT TWIN	MEDIUM TWIN	HEAVY TWIN	TOTAL FLEET
2009	240,507	23,878	62,195	18,237	344,817	957,756	87,771	117,438	32,702	1,195,667
2010	226,379	25,941	66,096	15,651	334,067	699,968	86,331	125,112	27,279	938,690
2011	205,354	27,412	67,976	16,043	316,785	636,058	92,762	131,368	30,984	891,172
2012	189,758	29,522	65,743	31,662	316,685	618,437	96,759	121,265	57,978	894,439
2013	172,211	24,812	79,394	29,338	305,755	536,284	81,339	142,754	51,525	809,346

GULF OF MEXICO HELICOPTER FLEET OPERATIONAL DATA

Averages Per Helicopter	2011	2012	2013
Passengers per Day per 5 Day Week	8,473	8,762	8,638
Flights Per Day	2,442	2,451	2,217
Average Flight Duration in Min.	21	21	23

Averages Per Helicopter	2011	2012	2013
Annual Hours Per Aircraft	668	637	668
Flights Per Aircraft	1,880	1,800	1,767
Passengers Flown Per Year	4,647	4,584	4,904

As a service to the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference (HSAC) membership, this Gulf of Mexico Offshore Helicopter Statistical Report is compiled annually from information submitted voluntarily by the membership and helicopter operators. The information is neither verified nor reviewed for accuracy and should be treated as unofficial. The data is believed to be representative; however, the HSAC assumes no liability for accuracy or completeness.

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HSAC 2013 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW



2013 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS				INJURY CLASSIFICATION				AIRCRAFT DAMAGES			AVIATION ACCIDENT RATES			
Aircraft		Category		Occupant Type		Severity		Classification			Rates			
Type Aircraft	# Accidents	# Fatal	# Eng Related	Pax	Crew	Injured	Fatal	Minor	Substantial	Total Loss	# Acc 100k Hours	# Fatal Acc 100k Hours	# Fatal 1M Occupants	# Acc 100k Flt Stages
Single Eng.	2	1	0	3	2	4	1	0	0	2	1.16	0.58	0.67	0.37
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Med. Twin	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	1.26	0.00	0.00	0.70
Heavy Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2013 Totals	3	1	0	5	2	6	1	0	1	2	0.98	0.33	0.31	0.37
2012 Totals	5	2	1	2	3	3	2	0	2	3	1.58	0.63	0.60	0.56

2013 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT CAUSES/INFO

	Power Loss, multi-cause	Other	Tie-down Proc.	Loss Control or Improper Proced.	Loose Cargo	Flight Into Terrain, Water (CFITW)	Fuel Mgmt	Obstacle Strike		Fuel Qual	Weather non-CFIT	Unk	Pax Control or HLO Proced.	Helideck Design or Size Issues	Fatalities Due To Engine Malf.
								Helideck	Other						
	Technical			Pilot Procedure Related					OTHER				MISC		
Single Eng	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Med. Twin	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hvy Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2013	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
99-2012 Ttls	21	11	3	19	4	11	6	16	1	4	2	7	4	9	6

FIVE YEAR GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

Year	Number Of Accidents			Injury Classification				Aircraft Damages			Aviation Accident Rates			
	# Accidents	# Fatal	# Eng Related	Occupant Type		Severity		Classification			# Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal 1 M Occupants	# Acc 100k Flt Stages
2009	8	1	1	7	4	3	8	2	4	2	2.32	0.29	2.09	0.67
2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2011	5/7*	0	1/2*	0	3	3	0	1/2*	4/5*	0	1.58/2.21*	0.00	0.00	0.56/0.71
2012	5	2	1	2	3	3	2	0	2	3	1.58	0.63	0.60	0.56
2013	3	1	0	5	2	6	1	0	1	2	0.98	0.33	0.31	0.37
5 Yr. Avg.	4.2	0.8	0.6	2.8	2.4	3.0	2.2	0.6	2.2	1.4	1.29	0.25	0.60	0.43

* Note - There were no ditchings in 2012 or 2013 that were not reported as accidents... Previous ditchings recorded as incidents if they had been classified as accidents are included in the red text as combined data inclusive of all accidents and ditchings. 2011 is first year this comparison is shown on the report.