

HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE

October 14, 2004

Sheraton – George Bush International

Houston, Texas

MINUTES

Introduction

The final General Meeting of HSAC for the year 2004 was convened at 09:00. Vice Chairman, Casey Lowery, welcomed the members and the meeting began with individual attendees' introductions.

Hurricane *Ivan* caused postponement of the HSAC Meeting originally scheduled on September 16th.

The Membership was informed that Chairman, Gary Tucker, accepted a new assignment within Air Logistics and relinquished his chairmanship. Nominations for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary were being accepted and Members would vote at the conclusion of the meeting.

- Nominee for Chairman was Casey Lowery, El Paso
- Nominees for Vice Chairman included Mark Fontenot, Air Logistics, and Carlin Craig, Petroleum Helicopters
- Nominees for Secretary included Mark Adolph, Tex-Air; Ted Winslow, BP; and Ron Domingue, Petroleum Helicopters

Vice Chairman Lowery welcomed new Associate Member, Petroleum Logistics Corporation. He acknowledged and thanked OuterLink, New Field and Petroleum Logistics for their financial support to HSAC.

Robert Williams, Aviation Advisor - ExxonMobil

- In 2003, Risk Reduction Work Group developed and produced seven (7) Recommend Practices (RPs) and one Safety Alert.
- Presented an update to the membership on the GoM Risk Reduction Work Group.



HSAC Action
Plan.xls

Mark Fletcher, FAA

Manager Aircraft Evaluation Group, Fort Worth, TX

- Mr. Fletcher briefed the membership on the FAA/HSAC Risk Reduction Work Group meeting where the FAA and key members of HSAC joined together to analyze GOMEX NTSB accidents from 1999 to 2004 utilizing Systems Approach in determining common repetitive Root Causes and develop Intervention Strategies.
- Proposed date for the next meeting on Intervention Strategies is December 12, 2004. Location to be announced.



attachment 2.pdf

- For summary of presentation, see Attachment 2.

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Captain Allan Duquette, Professional Helicopter Pilots Association (PHPA)

- The first annual PHPA Human Factors Safety Conference will be held at the Imperial Casino on October 15th through 17th in Biloxi, MS.
- Guest speakers include Glen Herpst, Chief Operations and Airworthiness Section, ICAO; Kelly Teague, Senior Investigator Instructor, Transportation Safety Institute; CW5 Wesley Hedman, U.S. Army Safety Center; Dale Keil, Safety Manager – Lear Seigler; and Terry Palmer, CRM Facilitator – FAA Program Safety Counselor.

Casey Lowery, El Paso

- Mr. Lowery presented photos of an offshore heliport frequented by his company where there were a number of tie-down rings that protruded well above the helideck surface posing a skid hazard.
- A Hazard Report form was presented where the pilot would record date, location, name of pilot, and platform problem.
- Help the pilot. “Support the Report” by contacting the platform owner to remove the hazard then follow-up to document that the work has been accomplished.

Casey Lowery, Treasurer’s Report

- Because of prior commitments, Treasurer, Joe Gross, was unable to attend.
- Mr. Lowery stated that the donations to HSAC are greatly appreciated and the contributions enabled the executive committee to improve selection of meeting facilities.

Terry Kaufman, Aircraft Safety - Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.

Standardization and Safety

- Presented the FAA video, “Pressure Points”
- Introduced Tony Cramp who presented Shell’s Safety Initiative.

Toney Cramp, Senior Safety Advisor – Shell Oil Company

- Presented “Air Safety Improvement and Managing Risk to ALARP” (As Low As Reasonably Practicable)
- Safety Management System (SMS) contribute to reduction of risk.
- Goal: Risk for helicopter passenger = Risk for airline passenger

- The Membership was attentive and many compliments to Mr. Cramp for the presentation and the information.
- Ron Price, NTSB, invited Mr. Cramp to Washington, D.C. to present report.

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Rick Oeder, ERA Aviation

Government Liaison

Mr. Oeder welcomed members of the National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) from Washington and introduced Mr. Ron Price, Aerospace Engineer; Ms. Lorenda Ward, Air Safety Investigator; and Mr. Robert Drake, FAA Air Safety Investigator.

Jim Hicks

- Air Defense has been busy with hurricanes and the Presidential elections.
- Who are squawking 1242 and 1244 and not their company code? Deridder FSS was assigning the squawk codes to El Paso on DVFR flight plans for flights to the *Marco Polo* located south of latitude 27.30 N.
- “Transformation” has begun changing NORAD to NORTHCOM.
- Problems with General Aviation aircraft violating the ADIZ.
- Mr. Hicks will prepare a briefing on “Transformation” for presentation at the January 2005 meeting and he will invite Gary Eastburn (?) and Greg Moore.

John Crawford

Sea-base X-band Radar

Construction is approximate 75% completed of a semi-submersible vessel that will support a very large radar system with a dish measuring approximately 80-feet. Tests of the X-band radar will be conducted from January through June 2005. The vessel will be located approximately 40-nm west of Alaminos Canyon 25 and, when positioned, flight restrictions will be issued.

Lt. Phil Pabellon, Air Station Houston

USCG Search and Rescue (SAR) Overview

Air Station, Houston

- 17 pilots
- 70+ enlisted personnel
- Four (4) HH65B “Dolphin” helicopters
- Dolphin has fuel with reserve for 375-nm

- Self-sufficient support equipment

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USCG Aircraft

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Crew</u>	<u>Cruise (Kts)</u>	<u>Range (NM)</u>
HH-65	4	125	375
HH-60	4	125	700
HU-25(Falcon)	5	350	1,700
C-130	7	210	2,300

Garry Guerrero, Chevron-Texaco

Introduced Harold Summers with HAI

- Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was not signed by all of the oil companies and efforts continue to obtain approval from legal departments.
- Because of delays with MOA, funding for GoM Communications and Weather will not be available in 2005.
- Efforts will continue for funding in 2006.

Mark Fontenot, Air Logistics

Heliports and Airways

New Houston Center Letter of Agreement has been issued and parties named as signatories on the document must submit signed copies by November 29, 2004.

Tom Suhrhoff, Aviation Advisor – ExxonMobil

Industrial Liaison

Safety Equipment Survey: Report represents 355 aircraft or 55% of GoM Fleet

Equipment	Number of Aircraft	% of Fleet
TCAS	266	64%
Vibration Monitoring	8	2%
External Rafts	13	4%
APICAL Floats	98	28%

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At the close of the General Meeting, Members voted for Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary. Elected were: Casey Lowery, Chairman; Mark Fontenot, Vice-Chairman, and Ron Domingue, Secretary.

The next scheduled meeting of the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference will be January 12 and 13, 2005 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

