2017 HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC) GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW

February 16, 2018

HSAC Members:

Please find attached the Helicopter Safety Advisory Conference (HSAC) "2017 Gulf of Mexico (GoM) Offshore Helicopter Operations and Safety Review". The membership support and response from 10 helicopter operators for this review is not only appreciated, but vital in establishing a meaningful report. Thank you for your continued support.

The level of annual flying activity for 2017 has continued to decrease as compared to the past several years. The number of medium twin engine helicopters experienced a slight increase, while the rest of the helicopter fleets numbers decreased.

Unfortunately, there were 3 reported accidents, 2 of which involved fatalities, by the HSAC member companys for calendar year 2017 as compared to none for 2016. The five year average GoM oil industry helicopter accident rate per 100,000 flight hours is 0.91. The fatal accident rate per 100,000 flight hours during these five years is 0.35.

Since 1999, there have been 29 accidents of which 7 were fatal (24%), resulting in 15 fatalities and 18 injuries. The leading causes, not all inclusive, of the accidents since 1999 are listed below, and secondary causes of these events include 13 related to helideck size or design related issues.

- 21 engine related,
- 25 loss of control or improper procedures,
- 18 helideck obstacle strikes,
- 13 controlled flight into terrain, and
- 12 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.

Respectfully,

Terry Duprie
HSAC Committee Member

HELICOPTER SAFETY ADVISORY CONFERENCE (HSAC)
2017 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			
2013	248	54	122	34	458	2,245,928	305,755	809,346
2014	271	52	96	46	415	2,043,649	296,001	741,201
2015	179	37	80	50	346	1,769,630	228,905	589,078
2016	188	39	69	48	344	1,498,418	196,484	526,981
2017*	**182**	**29**	**80**	**43**	**329**	**1,322,160**	**188,799**	**491,697**

* Data extracted from voluntary input of 10 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
2013	172,211	24,812	79,394	29,338	305,755	536,284	81,339	142,754	51,525	809,346
2014	159,859	22,933	76,188	37,021	296,001	477,117	81,734	121,820	60,530	741,201
2015	127,325	17,003	43,471	35,746	228,905	392,814	54,895	88,257	62,110	549,078
2016	118,695	11,308	39,846	26,635	196,484	377,781	34,356	69,785	45,059	526,981
2017	**116,408**	**10,880**	**38,027**	**23,484**	**188,799**	**373,773**	**22,474**	**57,410**	**38,031**	**491,697**

GULF OF MEXICO HELICOPTER FLEET OPERATIONAL DATA

Averages Per Helicopter	2015	2016	2017
Passengers per Day per 5 Day Week	6,806	5,763	5,085
Flights Per Day	1,614	1,444	1,347
Average Flight Duration in Min.	24	22	23

Averages Per Helicopter	2015	2016	2017
Annual Hours Per Aircraft	662	571	574
Flights Per Aircraft	1,703	1,532	1,495
Passengers Flown Per Year	5,129	4,356	4,019

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.

Dedicated to Safety Through Cooperation Since 1978

HSAC 2017 GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER OPERATIONS AND SAFETY REVIEW

GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELCOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS				INJURY CLASSIFICATION				AIRCRAFT DAMAGES			AVIATION ACCIDENT			
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.	3	2	0	7	3	2	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Med. Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2017 Totals	**3**	**2**	**0**	**7**	**3**	**2**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**2**	**1.59**	**1.06**	**1.05**	**0.61**

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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Light Twin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Med. Twin	0	0	0	0	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
2017	**0**	**1**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
99-2017 Ttls	**21**	**12**	**4**	**25**	**6**	**13**	**6**	**17**	**1**	**4**	**3**	**7**	**4**	**11**	**6**

FIVE YEAR GULF OF MEXICO OFFSHORE HELICOPTER ACCIDENT DATA

Number Of Accidents				Injury Classification				Aircraft Damages			Aviation Accident			
Aircraft Category				Occupant Type		Severity		Classification			Rates			
Year	# Accidents	# Fatal	# Eng Related	Pax	Crew	Injured	Fatal	Minor	Substantial	Total Loss	# Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal Acc 100k Hrs	# Fatal 1 M Occupants	# Acc 100k Flt Stages
2013	3	1	0	5	2	6	1	0	1	2	0.98	0.33	0.31	0.37
2014	2	1	0	2	2	0	2	0	1	1	0.68	0.34	0.67	0.27
2015	3	0	0	5	3	1	0	0	2	1	1.31	0.00	0.00	0.51
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2017	3	2	0	7	3	2	2	1	0	2	1.59	1.06	1.05	0.61
5 Yr. Avg.	**2.2**	**0.8**	**0.0**	**3.8**	**2.0**	**1.8**	**1.0**	**0.2**	**0.8**	**1.2**	**0.91**	**0.35**	**0.41**	**0.35**