EUROPEAN HELICOPTER SAFETY TEAM - EHEST

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Based on a presentation given by EASA at the September 2007 International Helicopter Safety Symposium
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EHEST is:

- the European Helicopter Safety Team
- the European branch of the International Helicopter Safety Team (IHST)
- Committed to the IHST objective of reducing the helicopter accident rate by 80 percent by 2016 worldwide
  - With emphasis on improving European safety
EHEST within ESSI

- EHEST is the helicopter component of the European Strategic Safety Initiative (ESSI)

- ESSI is an industry/regulators partnership for enhancing aviation safety in Europe based on voluntary commitment

- Facilitated – *not owned* - by EASA and powered by industry
Commercial Aviation (ECAST)
- Working with CAST and the ICAO COSCAP

Rotorcraft (EHEST)
- Working within IHST

General Aviation (EGAST)
- Will work with national initiatives within Europe
EHEST Composition

- EHEST features representatives of OEMs, operators, regulators, helicopter interest groups, accident investigators, and military from across Europe

- Governance
  - Regulators co-chair: M. Masson, EASA Safety Action Coordinator
  - Industry co-chairs: Jean-Pierre Dedieu, Eurocopter, and Captain John Black, EHOC
  - Secretary: C Audard
    Safety Team Support Officer
European Aviation Safety Agency

EHEST Organisation - Overview

EHEST
EUROPEAN HELICOPTER SAFETY TEAM

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-GROUP

INTERNATIONAL JHSAT

EHSAT (CORE TEAM)

EHSIT (CORE TEAM)

REGIONAL TEAMS

SPECIALIST TEAMS

INTERNATIONAL JHSIT
The European Helicopter Safety Analysis Team (EHSAT) is the EHEST team responsible for accident data analysis.

EHSAT has been formed with the purpose of:
- Developing a process for the analysis of European helicopter accidents
- Performing this analysis, similar to function of the JHSAT part of the IHST in the USA
  NB: Analysis carried out in Europe designed to be compatible with the work of the JHSAT

Comprises a Core Team and a series of Regional Teams
At least one representative from every EHSAT Regional Team

**EHSAT Core Team tasks/functions:**
- Regional Team representatives report results and experiences
- Check and aggregate of results (quality control)
- Revise the taxonomies, tool and process manual (standardisation)
- Training of EHSAT Regional Teams
- Report to EHEST
- Coordination with JHSAT and International Analysis Teams
EHSAT Regional Teams

- Regional Teams formed:
  - UK, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Nordic countries

- Regional Teams formed to analyse ‘local’ accident reports for EHSAT
  - Maximizes resources (less travelling)
  - Relations between local parties already established
  - Participants aware of local context
  - Different languages used

- Team composition - best if balanced:
  - Recommended members: NAA, AIB, Operator, Manufacturer, Pilot association, Military, GA community
EHEST Organisation - EHSIT
The European Helicopter Safety Implementation Team (EHSIT) is the EHEST team responsible for devising and implementing safety enhancements.

EHSIT has been formed with the purpose of:
- Consolidating intervention recommendations identified by the analysis performed by EHSAT
- Establishing safety enhancements to address the intervention recommendations

Comprises a Core Team and a series of Regional Teams and Specialist Teams.
At least one representative from every EHSIT Regional Team

EHSIT Core Team tasks/functions:
  - Coordinate Regional Teams and Specialist Teams
  - Consolidate intervention recommendations produced by EHSAT analysis
  - Review safety enhancements proposed by Regional Teams and Specialist Teams
  - Review safety enhancements produced by JHSIT
  - Agree safety enhancements and propose to EHEST for approval
  - Pass approved safety enhancements to Regional Teams and/or Specialist Teams as appropriate for action
  - Monitor progress and report to EHEST
EHSIT Regional & Specialist Teams

- **Regional teams:**
  - Same teams as EHSAT Regional Teams
  - Propose safety enhancements for consideration by EHSIT Core Team
  - Facilitate implementation of voluntary safety enhancements
  - Communicate with local communities (e.g. via HMLC, ONLC, SHSG, HSRMC & ASTG in the UK)

- **Specialist Teams:**
  - Specialist Teams to be set up may include HEMS, regulatory, OEMs, training, offshore ops
Dataset

- **EHSAT will focus on**
  - Accidents (definition ICAO Annex 13)
  - With date of occurrence starting from 2000 to 2005
  - With helicopters registered in Europe
  - And State of accident located in Europe

- **The scope could be expanded to include for example older accidents or incidents**
  - UK reviewing all AAIB ‘yellow cover’ accident reports plus bulletins with at least an AAIB field investigation from 2000 to present
Percentage of Fleet Covered

- With UK, Germany, France, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Nordic countries this represents 89% of the current European fleet
- Expanding as new countries join
- Challenges:
  - Multiple languages and operations
  - Multiple authorities: EASA, NAAs and AIBs
Coverage: > 89% of fleet covered
Top Safety Issues

- EHEST members submitted their ‘top 10’ safety issues
- Will mainly be used to check and enrich the EHSAT results
- No implementation work will start before analysis of ‘core’ dataset complete
- Analysis results can influence, starting end of 2007:
  - EASA research programme
  - EASA rule making programme
Top Safety Issues

Main issues (not prioritised):
- Pilot disorientation in flight during night operations or inadvertent entry into IMC
- Controlled Flight into Terrain (CFIT)
- Wire strikes
- Air proximities/near misses/mid-air collisions
- Personal protection equipment and survivability
- Design issues
- Maintenance issues

Human factors and training are not explicitly listed but play an essential role in most of these issues
Work Programme

- EHSAT to complete analysis of ‘core’ data set for presentation to Sept 2009 IHSS
- EHSAT to continue analysing accidents to update database and monitor for effectiveness of safety enhancements
- EHSIT to establish preliminary set of safety enhancements for presentation to Sept 2009 IHSS
- Establish EHEST Communications Sub-Group – launch meeting Sept 2009
Questions?