



# **Preliminary IHSS 2010 Notice**

## **Fourth International Helicopter Safety Symposium**

**3 and 4 October 2010**  
**Cascais Miragem Hotel • Estoril, Portugal**

### **The International Helicopter Safety Team (IHST) Announces its Fourth International Helicopter Safety Symposium (IHSS 2010)**

**Hosted by the European Helicopter Safety Team (EHEST)**

### **IHST Findings and Recommendations = Achieving an 80 Percent Reduction in Helicopter Accident Rates by 2016**

The European Helicopter Safety Team (EHEST) is proud to play host to the Fourth International Helicopter Safety Symposium to be held on Sunday 3rd October 2010 at Estoril in Portugal. This event will be followed by a day of briefings and interactive workshops (Monday 4th October 2010) covering IHST's four highest payoff safety enhancement areas.

Long-term worldwide helicopter accident data trends remained unacceptably high for the last 20 years. At the first International Helicopter Safety Symposium (IHSS) in Montréal in 2005, nearly 300 attendees – from industry, associations, the international government regulatory agencies, and helicopter operators – agreed to launch an aggressive effort to reduce the worldwide helicopter accident rate by 80% by 2016.

In early 2006, industry and government leaders created the International Helicopter Safety Team (IHST), modelled after the successful US Commercial Aviation Safety Team (CAST), to analyze the causes of helicopter accidents (based on real accident data) and propose mitigation strategies to achieve the 80% goal. The processes used by IHST engaged a team of industry experts to perform accident analysis. IHST subsequently launched a parallel effort to prioritize and recommend appropriate interventions, including: the promotion of a “safety culture,” improved training, and the introduction of new technologies, to achieve the IHST goal.

EHEST is the helicopter branch of the European Strategic Safety Initiative (ESSI) and the European branch of the International Helicopter Safety Team (IHST). EHEST is a partnership between Industry and EASA and comprises helicopter OEMs, civil operators, regulators, helicopter interest groups, accident investigators and military operators from across Europe. The Team has developed an organization adapted to Europe, including a central strategic team (EHEST), an analysis core team (EHSAT) and Regional Analysis Teams including the United Kingdom, Italy, Hungary, Spain, Germany, Switzerland, France, Nordic countries, Ireland and others. The Regional Analysis Teams cover more than 90% of the European civil helicopter fleet.

#### **Day 1: IHSS 2010 - IHST Update**

The IHSS 2009 held in Montreal in September 2009 was a major milestone when JHSAT analyses and recommendations of two years of accident data (US) were handed over to the JHSIT to develop its implementation strategy. Other participating countries also presented their JHSAT report and the similarities of their recommendations were striking.

2010 is pivotal for IHST as many Regional Partners begin the transition from data analysis to setting up the regional JHSITs and begin implementing, delivering and monitoring real world safety interventions in their regions.



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Day 1 of the event provides an excellent opportunity to receive an update from the IHST Executive Committee on overall progress worldwide. The IHST Regional partners from around the world will then brief others on their work, through individual briefings or panel discussions. The day also provides the chance to identify and share 'best practices' among the Regional JHSAT and JHSIT committees. In addition, prospective International Regional Teams will be able to listen to the methods used and receive templates for future activity.

EHEST will provide a more detailed update on the completed reports that the EHSAT have now finalised and the initial efforts of the European Helicopter Safety Implementation Teams (EHSIT) plans for implementation. These discussions will lead to the planning of IHSS 2011.

### Day 2: IHSS 2010 – Workshops

The central theme of Day 2 IHSS 2010 will see IHST Regional Teams focus upon the implementation strategies that can help organisations (big and small) achieve enhanced safety across their operation – whether that be HEMS, fire fighting, offshore, aerial work, flight training, etc.

In some areas, the regional IHST Regional (JHSAT) Teams have completed the analysis of the many hundred of helicopter accidents they had to work with. These Regional Analysis Teams have now largely handed over the focus of their efforts to the implementation phase, which forms part of the Joint Helicopter Safety Implementation Teams (JHSIT) whose role has been to review and prioritize various mitigating strategies and to develop plans for implementation.

At the IHSS Workshops, participants will hear presentations about the concept and structure of the mitigating strategies and, through interactive workshops, will be able to participate in their refinement and inform the way they are introduced to the wider helicopter community. In addition, conference attendees will be able to participate in a panel discussion on the safety analysis and the mitigations identified so far and how IHST seek to achieve the 80% reduction in the helicopter accident rates by 2016.

There will also be a presentation on the IS-BAO initiative. IS-BAO is a code of best practice which has been widely adopted in the Business Aviation sector and which is now being looked at for the helicopter community as an effective (and affordable) method of enhancing safety standards.

### Learn More



The venue for the two-day conference is the beautiful Hotel Cascais Miragem, in Cascais, Portugal, located near the HELITECH Europe event which follows on October 5 and 6, 2010. For additional information on Helitech 2010, please visit their website at [www.helitechevents.com](http://www.helitechevents.com).

To learn more about IHSS 2010 and registration opportunities, please visit [www.ihst.org](http://www.ihst.org) and click on the link to IHSS 2010 or contact Sue Gardner, IHST Program Director, [sue.gardner@faa.gov](mailto:sue.gardner@faa.gov), (734) 487-7439 or Kay Brackins, IHST Registrar at AHS Headquarters, [kay@vtol.org](mailto:kay@vtol.org), (703) 684-6777, or FAX to (703) 739-9279.



We urge you to become a member of the worldwide IHST at [www.ihst.org](http://www.ihst.org). Membership is free.