

**Update on the Progress of the European Helicopter Safety Team (EHST)
December 2009**

by EHSAT co-chairs Michel Masson, EASA, and Andy Evans, AviateQ

5th 2009 meeting of the European Helicopter Safety Analysis Team (EHSAT) on 30 Nov. in Cologne

The **preliminary EHSAT report**, initially presented at the EHST Conference of 13 October 2008 in Cascais, Portugal, has been published by the EU Publications Office and distributed in session. In total 400 copies have been distributed to stakeholders, in particular at the **3rd EASA Rotorcraft Symposium** organised by EASA Rotorcraft Certification on 2-3 December 2009 in Cologne.

The EHSAT Regional Teams (RTs) continue the analysis of helicopter accidents occurred in Europe between 2000 and 2005, and some RTs have started analysing those accidents from after 2005 and/or before 2000.

While the preliminary EHSAT report covered the first 186 accidents analysed, the EHSAT database now contains more than **380 accidents of which 301 are in the 2000-2005 timeframe**. The entire analysis of these 6 years is expected to be completed by end of March 2010 in view of the **final EHSAT report 2000-2005**, planned to be published by mid 2010.

The Regional Teams will then continue the analysis of accidents reports at the rate of one year of accidents per year. This is to monitor the effects of future safety enhancements and identify any emerging safety issues related, for instance, to operational, technological and regulatory developments.

4th meeting of the European Helicopter Safety Implementation Team (EHSIT) on 30 Nov. and 1st Dec. in Cologne

The EHSIT's role is to process the intervention recommendations produced by the EHSAT and to develop, implement and monitor safety enhancement action plans across Europe. These action plans will contribute to achieving the IHST objective of reducing the accident rate by 80% by 2016 within Europe.

The **Specialist Team (ST) Operations & SMS and ST Training**, launched at the September EHSIT meeting at AgustaWestland, meet in parallel sessions, to prepare their work programmes for 2010.

The EHSIT also initiated the demanding exercise of aggregating at European level the intervention recommendations on regulatory aspects coming from the EHSAT accident analyses. A **Specialist Team Regulation** was created. Dave Howson, UK CAA, was unanimously suggested as Rapporteur and has accepted the task. This team will identify potential areas for rulemaking from the analysis database and communicate its suggestions to EASA Rulemaking. Its primary point of contact within EASA will be Dave Haddon, Initial Airworthiness Rulemaking Officer.

Different types of deliverables are foreseen for the EHSIT:

- Contribution to the **final EHSAT report 2000-2005** with a table presenting the top consolidated intervention recommendations;

- **Safety actions towards organisations:** Operators and Operators Associations, FTOs, NAAs,

ANSPs, DOAs, POAs, Part145, and Part M Organisations;

- **Safety promotion material** targeting individual pilots and instructors and others;

- **Rulemaking proposal(s)** to be submitted to the competent authorities (ICAO, EASA, or NAAs) using standard rulemaking processes;

- Specific, practical material on **Safety Management Systems (SMS), Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), operational Risk Management, Safety Culture, and Training** targeting in particular but not exclusively small operators.

2nd meeting of the European Helicopter Safety Team (EHST) on 1st December in Cologne

The EHST is the decision making body of the initiative. In this 2nd meeting of 2009, the EHSAT and the EHSIT presented their achievements, work in progress, and work program for 2010.

Results of the 2009 International Helicopter Safety Symposium (IHSS) of 29 Sep. - 1 Oct, in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, were reviewed, and the EHST presentation for the EASA Rotorcraft Symposium of 2-3 Dec. was approved. Mention was made of the CHC Safety and Quality Summit of 22-24 March in Vancouver, BC, Canada, and the proposed advancement there of a Global Helicopter Flight Data Monitoring Community.

EHST Communication Sub-Group

The Communication Sub-Group is a specialised team of EHST. The following material was submitted for approval and approved by the EHST:

- **Terms of Reference:** The Communication Sub-Group will identify and define a process to efficiently

communicate with the Helicopter community, in particular small operators and GA. This task includes but is not limited to defining the best way to communicate to GA pilots and small operators, developing tools to monitor the implementation of action plans, coordinating with the European General Aviation Safety Team (EGAST) on communication to GA pilots, and coordinate with IHST on communication matters.

- **Strategy:** the Communication Sub-Group will perform effective transfer of information to the EHST, IHST, EASA, NAAs, ICAO, and other international forums, and with peer group organisations within IHST, EGAST, and other Safety Teams. It will also address safety individual safety promotion communication to individual pilots, instructors and mechanics through Associations, and Safety Promotion communication to organisations.

To facilitate coordination with the EHSIT Specialist Teams, a member of the Communication SG will sit within each Specialist Team.

The EHST thanked the various teams and sub-teams for their continued commitment and congratulated them on the progress made so far.

EHEST is actively seeking new participants for the EHSIT, EHSIT Specialist Teams, and Communication Sub-Group. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to contact the EHEST Secretariat by sending an email to EHEST@easa.europa.eu.

Governance news

John Steel, Irish Aviation Authority, was approved as EHSIT authority co-chair.

Dave Howson, was proposed as rapporteur of the EHSIT Specialist Team Regulation.

Publications and conferences

The **2001 US JHSAT report** was released on 11 September and published on <http://www.ihst.org/>.

The **IHST Toolkit on Helicopter Flight Data Monitoring** was published on <http://www.ihst.org/> together with the SMS, Training, and Risk Assessment Toolkits.

In 2009 EHEST was presented in the following international events:

- **American Helicopter Society (AHS) Forum 65** of 27-29 May in Grapevine, Texas, USA, <http://www.vtol.org/>
- **European Rotorcraft Forum (ERF 09)** of 22-25 September in Hamburg, Germany, <http://www.erf2009.org/index.php>,
- **International Helicopter Safety Symposium (IHSS 09)** of 29 Sep-1 Oct in Montreal, Canada, <http://www.ihst.org/>,
- **Conference "Working on Fire"** of 3-4 November in Frankfurt a.M. Germany, http://www.airtec.aero/documents/_Dokumente/2009/090812_heliworl_d_2009_conference_programme_k_l.pdf
- **3rd EASA Rotorcraft Symposium** of 2-3 Dec in Cologne, Germany, http://www.easa.europa.eu/ws_prod/g/g_events.php.

Look ahead calendar

CHC Safety and Quality Summit, 22-24 March 2010, Vancouver, BC, Canada
<http://www.chcsafetyqualitysummit.com/summit-program/overview.aspx>

The calendars of EHSAT, EHSIT and EHEST meetings are published on:
<http://www.easa.europa.eu/essi/ehestEN.html>.

Background information on EHEST

The EHEST brings together helicopter manufacturers, operators, regulators, helicopter and pilots associations, research organisations, accident investigators and military operators from across Europe. EHEST has members from organisations including: Eurocopter, AgustaWestland, EASA, UK CAA, MoD UK DASC, DGAC France, BEA France, ENAC Italy, CAA Norway, FOCA CH, EHA, EHO�, EHAC, QinetiQ, RAeS, Irish AAIB, AIB Hungary, UK AAIB, BFU Germany, Bristow Group, CHC, Shell Aircraft Ltd, NLR, DLR, AviateQ Int., APYTHEL, AIB and CAA Spain, Swiss Helicopter Association, etc.

EHEST addresses the broad spectrum of helicopter operations across Europe; from commercial air transport to General Aviation and flight training activities. EHEST brings together around 130 participants, from which around 70 are actively involved in the analysis and implementation work.



Governance

- **EHEST co-Chairs:** John Vincent, EASA, John Black, EHO�, and Jean-Pierre Dedieu, Eurocopter.
- **EHSAT Co-Chairs:** Michel Masson, EASA, and Andy Evans, AviateQ International.
- **EHSIT Co-Chairs:** Gunter Carloff, NewEHA, and John Steel, IAA.
- **EHSIT Specialist Team Operations & SMS Rapporteur:** Stefano Burigana, Elilombarda.
- **EHSIT Specialist Team Training Rapporteur:** Christophe Marchal, Eurocopter.
- **EHSIT Specialist Team Regulation Rapporteur:** Dave Howson, UK CAA (acting).
- **EHEST Communications Sub-Group Rapporteur:** Duncan Trapp, CHC Helicopter.

For further information please contact: EHEST@easa.europa.eu