

Update on the Progress of the European Helicopter Safety Team (EHEST) September 2009

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

4th 2009 meeting of the European Helicopter Safety Analysis Team on 8 September

The 4th 2009 meeting of the EHSAT took place on 8 September in the Agusta Westland site of Cascina Costa, near Milan, Italy, in conjunction with the 4th meeting of the EHSIT.

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 analysis presented in 2008 in the EHEST Conference in Cascais, Portugal, and in the 2nd EASA Rotorcraft Symposium in Cologne was limited to 186 accidents, the EHSAT database now contains **370 accidents of which 301 are in the timeframe 2000-2005**. The analysis of those 6 years is expected to be completed beginning of 2010. The Regional Teams will then continue analysing accidents reports at the rate of one year of accidents per year to expand the database for further processing and for monitoring the effects of future safety enhancements by the EHSIT.

4th meeting of the European Helicopter Safety Implementation Team on 8 and 9 September 2009

The 4th meeting of the EHSIT took place 8 and 9 September at Agusta Westland.

The EHSIT is tasked with processing 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, with emphasis on

the European scene. An ambitious and comprehensive implementation scheme is key for success.

In this 4th meeting, the EHSIT completed the complex task exercise of aggregating at European level the intervention recommendations on **Training** and on **Operations & SMS** using a process adapted from the US JHSIT.

These two areas contained more individual interventions than any other. Aggregation work also started on the categories **Infrastructure, Research,** and **Data**, while **Regulatory** aspects are now ready to be passed to a (yet to be created) Specialist Team for further development.

The **Specialists Teams (STs)** on 'Operations and SMS' and on 'Training' met for the first time in Cascina, and agreed with the EHSIT on a way forward. Four types of deliverables are foreseen:

- **Publication in summer 2010 of a new EHEST report** presenting the definitive EHSAT results for 2000-2005, and a master plan presenting all consolidated intervention recommendations in a table format;
- **Safety actions towards organisations:** Operators (through their Associations), FTOs, NAAs, ANSPs, DOAs, POAs, Part145, and Part M Organisations.
- **Development of safety promotion material** targeting individual pilots and instructors;
- **Development of rulemaking proposal(s)**, to be submitted to the competent authorities (ICAO, EASA, or NAAs), using standard rulemaking processes.

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

EHSIT Governance

Gunter CARLOFF, Executive Director of the new EHA, was approved by the EHEST as EHSIT industry co-chair on 24 June 09, and the candidature of **John STEEL, Irish Aviation Authority**, unanimously approved by the EHSIT on 8 September will be submitted to EHEST on 1 Dec. 09.

Stefano BURIGANA, Elilombarda, was elected as rapporteur of the Specialist Team on Operations & SMS ST, and **Christophe MARCHAL, Eurocopter**, as rapporteur of the Specialist Team on Training.

Publications and Conferences

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

Two articles on EHA and EHEST were published in the September edition of **4Rescue**, the International Air Rescue and Air Ambulance magazine.

The latest EHSAT and EHSIT results will be presented in the following international events:

- **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, Germany,

http://www.airtec.aero/documents/Dokumente/2009/090812_heliworld_2009_conference_programme_kl.pdf

- **3rd EASA Rotorcraft Symposium** of 2-3 Dec in Cologne, Germany, http://www.easa.europa.eu/ws_prod/g/g_events.php.

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

Background information

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, Agusta Westland, EASA, UK CAA, MoD UK DASC, DGAC France, BEA France, ENAC Italy, CAA Norway, FOCA CH, EHA, EHOA, 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, EHOA, and Jean-Pierre Dedieu, Eurocopter.
- **EHSAT Co-Chairs:** Michel Masson, EASA, and Andy Evans, AviateQ International.
- **EHSIT Co-Chairs:** Gunter Carloff, EHA, and John Steel (acting), IAA.

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