Offshore Helidecks
Session 8 Regulatory and oversight issues – updating the ICAO Heliport Manual Doc. 9261

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Update of the Heliport Design & Services Manual (Part I)


- HDWG is to complete a comprehensive update of the Heliport Manual, by dividing the Manual into two sections – Part I to address Offshore Heliports and Part II to address Onshore Heliports.
- Part I (helidecks, shipboard heliports and shipboard winching areas) and Part II (surface level and elevated heliports). It will remain as one whole document – an update of doc. 9261.
- The Heliport Manual was last updated in 1995 and is now two major revisions (and several minor ones) out of step with Annex 14 Volume II.
- Part I, Offshore Heliports is well advanced and following submission to ADOP in September has recently been lodged with the ICAO Secretariat for formatting. This should be available in draft for use of States shortly.
- Part II, onshore heliports is still in the very early stages of development and is unlikely to be submitted to the ADOP before 2Q 2017. The update of the onshore portion represents a substantial piece of work for HDWG.
ICAO Heliport Design & Services Manual (Part I) – Offshore Heliports - Contents List

- Chapter 1 – General
- Chapter 2 – Heliport Data
- Chapter 3 – Physical Characteristics
- Chapter 4 – Obstacle Environment
- Chapter 5 – Visual Aids – Marking and Lighting
- Chapter 6 – Helideck Rescue & Fire-fighting Facilities
- Chapter 7 – Winching Areas on Ships
- Chapter 8 – Miscellaneous Items

- Offshore heliports covers the following offshore facilities: helidecks, shipboard heliports and shipboard winching areas
Chapter 1 : General

- Covers scope of document addressing:
  - Helidecks on fixed attended and not permanently attended platforms (PAI/NPAI)
  - Helidecks on Mobile Offshore Drilling Units (semi-sub / jack-up)
  - Helidecks on Floating Production Storage Offloading (FPSO)
  - Shipboard heliports on drill-ships, small vessels and tankers
  - Non-purpose built ship’s side and hatch cover operations

- Definitions
- Abbreviations
- Table of characteristics for common offshore helicopter types (two tables address metric and imperial dimensions)
Chapter 2: Heliport Data

- Authorisation of offshore heliports
  - Assessment checklist
  - Content of a Helideck Limitations List (HLL)
  - Content of a Helideck Information Plate (HIP)
Chapter 3: Physical Characteristics

- Heliport Structural Design
- Heliport Design Considerations – Environmental Effects
- Guidance on helideck size and surface mounted objects (Appendix 1 addresses a Risk Assessment for sub-1D operations)
- Guidance on shipboard heliport size and surface mounted objects
- Helideck surface arrangements
- Shipboard heliport surface arrangements
Chapter 4: Obstacle Environment

- Description of surfaces – helidecks
- Description of surfaces – shipboard heliports
- Temporary Combined Operations
- Multiple Platform Configurations
- Obstacle protected surfaces for square and circular helidecks
- Mapping of obstacles on non-purpose built shipboard heliports
Chapter 5: Visual Aids – Marking and Lighting

- Wind direction indicator
- Heliport identification H marking
- Maximum allowable mass marking
- D-value markings
- TLOF perimeter markings
- TD/PM circle
- Helideck obstacle free sector chevron marking
- Helideck and shipboard heliport surface marking
- Prohibited landing sector marking
- TLOF lighting systems (with floodlights)
- TLOF lighting systems (with circle and H lighting)
  (Appendix 2: presents detail for circle and H TLOF lighting system)
- Special considerations for non-purpose built shipboard heliports
- Visual aids for denoting obstacles
Chapter 6: Helideck Rescue and Fire-fighting facilities

- Key design considerations – principle agent (FFAS)
- Use and maintenance of foam equipment
- Complementary media
- Considerations for NPAIs
- The management of extinguishing media stocks
- Rescue equipment
- Personnel levels
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Training
- Emergency Procedures

FFAS = Fixed Foam Application System

- Chapter 7 – Winching areas on ships
Chapter 8 – Miscellaneous items

- Criteria for parking areas and push-in areas
- Meteorological Equipment Provision
- Deck motions - reporting and recording
- Communications and navigation equipment
- Helicopter refuelling operations
- Bird control at normally unattended offshore facilities
Appendix 1: Example Risk Assessment for Helicopter Operations to Helidecks and Shipboard Heliports which are sub-1D.

Appendix 2: A specification for a helideck lighting system comprising: Perimeter lights, Lit Touchdown/Positioning Marking and Lit Heliport Identification Marking.

Appendix 3: Rescue and Fire-fighting arrangements for non-purpose built shipboard heliports and shipboard winching areas.