# Helicopter Operations Safety Committee

21-July--2021 Highlights

## Presentation to HOSC by Equinor- Helicopter Incident Mariner A

- Presenter Gillian Urghart, Head of Safety and Sustainability for Equinor UK
  - Description of event, resolution and history
  - o Very clear, informative and well received presentation
  - Lessons learned are applicable to East Coast Operations
    - 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021, Helicopter had to be moved to permit a second helicopter to land with engineers onboard to address a maintenance issue with the first.
    - Aircraft was manually pushed off the main helideck over a grated area. The starboard rear wheel penetrated the deck grating.
  - Will share details of the presentation in upcoming minutes

# Aviation safety alerts and awareness

- CHI (Cougar Helicopters) Customer Flight Notifications
  - No updates for the period
- AIR TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INVESTIGATION REPORT A19A0055
  - INADVERTENT DESCENT DURING APPROACH
  - Initial discussion by HOSC membership
  - Concerns with the content of the report were expressed
  - All agreed that further HOSC review for understanding is required.
  - All HOSC members will read and prepare for in depth discussion at next meeting

No concerns with NL flight operations, procedures and training are clear in this regard

- Two CHI Flight Safety Officers conducted an in dept review of the report
- No change in CHI procedures were recommended

# **Operational Changes at CHI**

CHI DISPATCH

Type B Operational Control at CHI.

HOSC was advised that the following change was driven by Transport Canada's (TC) decision to discontinue support for

- Effective June 12th, 2021 CHI shifted from Type B to a Type C model
  - In the Type B model (Airlines/Cargo), Pilots and Dispatchers are responsible for flight planning.
  - In the Type C model (Commuter/Helicopters), Flight Crews are responsible for flight planning.
  - A detailed MOC process is was conducted to ensure that all activities and areas for adjustment were completed and rectified in advance of the switch-over date.
- Transition activities included, RA's, Communication with Regulator, Documentation updates and communication with operators. Operators communicated the change to workforce.
- No safety risks identified following completion of the RA/MOC activity
- Operational impact is an initial requirement for additional time between check-in and flight departure. Estimate 15 minutes.

Change was not raised at HOSC prior to implementation or during the transition process

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## Alternate Landing Weather Automation

- CHI is in the process of shiftingto a fully Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS).
- Once implemented, Long Pond will no longer have a staffed Weather Observer.
- HOSC discussed and will add this to the regular agenda for updates as this change progresses

#### **Bauline Radar Maintenance**

On July 19th, 2021. NAV Canada has commenced maintenance on the Bauline Radar Dome

- It has been taken out of service which may have an impact on offshore flights
- Impact will only occur on IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) days
- Expect 6 weeks duration for maintenance
- It may affect offshore flight as they must maintain separation for IFR traffic
  - o Passengers on a flight in that period may experience longer times for the inbound flights.
  - The aircraft may be directed go into a hold inbound... which will depend on the other traffic.
    - A hold is a maneuver designed to delay an aircraft already in flight while keeping it within a specified airspace.
  - Consideration is given to the potential for a hold is as part of flight planning and fuel requirements during this period

## **HOSC Website**

- HOSC.CA is active and online
- Requesting HOSC members' review
- Operator representatives have provided company approval to proceed and provide commercial support

#### COVID-19

- Discussed current process at Heliport
- No significant changes currently
- In addition to individual or joint operator processes CHI must continue to follow Transport Canada requirements
- Some changes in testing across operators are ongoing

## **HOSC** document hosting

- Secure site or FTP to host HOSC documents
- ExxonMobil to host
- Expect available for September 2021

## **Extended flight day**

- Based on priority with pandemic decision was made to delay further discussions internally.
- Delayed parked for now, 3<sup>rd</sup> 4th quarter No change

Next meeting 13-Oct-2021 09:30 NL

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