



HELICOPTER FACTS

Contact: Tony Molinaro
tony.molinaro@faa.gov or (847) 294-7427

Helicopter Pilot Safety Antidotes for Hazardous Attitudes

The hazardous attitudes which contribute to poor pilot judgment can be counteracted so that they do not adversely affect a pilot's helicopter operation. A pilot can "take an antidote" to neutralize the hazardous attitude. Recognizing a hazardous attitude, correctly labeling the thought, and then saying and absorbing its antidote is a simple, but effective safety method. A pilot should know the "antidotes" well so that they will automatically come to mind when needed.

Hazardous Attitude

Anti-Authority - *"Don't tell me what to do."*

Impulsive - *"Do something--quickly."*

Invulnerability - *"It won't happen to me."*

Macho - *"I can do this,"*

Resignation - *"What's the use?"*

Safety Antidote

Follow the safety rules. They are usually right.

Not so fast. Think first.

It could happen to me.

Taking chances is foolish.

I'm not helpless. I can make a difference.

The International Helicopter Safety Team (IHST) promotes safety and works to reduce accidents. The organization was formed in 2005 to lead a government and industry cooperative effort to address factors that were affecting an unacceptable helicopter accident rate. The group's mission is to reduce the international civil helicopter accident rate by 80 percent by 2016.

More information about the IHST, its reports, its safety tools, and presentations from its 2011 safety symposium can be obtained at its web site at www.IHST.org and its Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/International-Helicopter-Safety-Team-IHST/150529738351608>