



# IHST

**International Helicopter Safety Team**  
Our Vision: An International Civil Helicopter Community With Zero Accidents

## ***HELICOPTER SAFETY NEWS***

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### **IHST After 10 Years: A Worldwide Reduction in Helicopter Accidents**

*Total Accidents and Accident Rates Slashed in Key Global Regions*

The International Helicopter Safety Team ([www.IHST.org](http://www.IHST.org)) reached its 10-year milestone this year with deep reductions in civil helicopter accidents in key regions throughout the globe and with an effective safety education effort that continues to spread throughout the industry.

The successful effort to reduce helicopter accidents was applauded today by industry leaders at Heli-Expo with a re-commitment to the IHST's efforts and continuing support for the IHST's government and industry partnership to enhance safety.

#### **Worldwide Safety**

- Prior to the IHST's formation in 2006, the number of worldwide civil helicopter accidents was rising at a rate of 2.5 percent per year.
- Since 2006, while the worldwide civil helicopter fleet has grown by 30 percent,
- the number of accidents worldwide has decreased in key global regions from 24 percent up to more than 50 percent,
- and the accident rate in key regions has decreased within a range of 40 to 60 percent.

#### **Europe**

The European Helicopter Safety Team ([www.easa.europa.eu/essi/ehest/](http://www.easa.europa.eu/essi/ehest/)) has been vigorous in its pursuit of detailed analysis and extensive education to enhance the safety culture in numerous countries throughout the European continent. Preliminary totals show that accidents have been trimmed by about 50 percent and there is a strong and positive emphasis on reducing fatal accidents. (*Data reflects EASA Member States registered civil rotorcraft.*)

#### Total Accidents

2006: **130 accidents**, 17 fatal accidents  
2013: **103 accidents**, 25 fatal accidents  
2014: **98 accidents**, 15 fatal accidents  
2015: **60 accidents**, 10 fatal accidents (54% decrease in accidents)  
(*These are preliminary totals.*)

## North America – Canada

In Canada, the total number of accidents has been reduced by about one-third and the number of fatal accidents is down substantially. There also was an exceptional 18-month span of safe operations: Throughout all of 2014 and for the first part of 2015, there were zero fatal helicopter accidents.

### Total Accidents

2007:	<b>46 accidents</b> , 7 fatal accidents	
2008:	<b>42 accidents</b> , 9 fatal accidents	
2014:	<b>34 accidents</b> , 0 fatal accidents	
2015:	<b>31 accidents</b> , 3 fatal accidents	<i><u>(33% decrease in accidents)</u></i>

*(These are preliminary totals.)*

## Brazil

In Brazil, the civil helicopter fleet has rapidly grown by 49 percent during the past four years, but the accident rate is declining. This coincides with an IHST-supported safety campaign that was launched in 2011 by the Brazilian Helicopter Safety Team (<http://www.ihstbrasil.org/>).

### Total Accidents

2011:	<b>30 accidents</b> , 8 fatal accidents
2012:	<b>29 accidents</b> , 5 fatal accidents
2013:	<b>25 accidents</b> , 4 fatal accidents
2014:	<b>20 accidents</b> , 6 fatal accidents
2015:	<b>17 accidents</b> , 7 fatal accidents

*(43% decrease in accidents)*

### Accident Rate (per 1,000 aircraft)

2011:	<b>17.5 accident rate</b>
2012:	<b>15.2 accident rate</b>
2013:	<b>10.5 accident rate</b>
2014:	<b>8.0 accident rate</b>
2015:	<b>6.6 accident rate</b>

*(62% decrease in accident rate)*

## New Zealand

The New Zealand team is a recent regional partner within the IHST. They have focused safety initiatives on low-flying operations and wire strike issues, and they have developed a proactive safety education and communications program aimed at operators and pilots.

### Total Accidents

2000:	<b>21 accidents</b>
2001:	<b>24 accidents</b>
2015:	<b>16 accidents</b>

*(24% decrease in accidents)*

### Accident Rate (per 100,000 flight hours)

2000:	<b>14.0 accident rate</b>
2001:	<b>16.0 accident rate</b>
2015:	<b>8.0 accident rate</b>

*(43% decrease in accident rate)*

## Safety Outreach

The IHST promotes a wide-ranging safety outreach effort through four web sites - - Worldwide ([www.IHST.org](http://www.IHST.org)), Europe, U.S.A., and Brazil - - and an active Facebook page and Twitter site. Helicopter safety experts from across the industry gather under the IHST banner to collaborate on and develop a broad collection of safety materials that are shared across the globe. They include:

- Comprehensive reports analyzing accident causes and interventions for the U.S., Europe and Canada
- 4 extensive safety Toolkits on SMS, training, technology, and maintenance
- 12 detailed Safety Leaflets looking at pilot decisions, advanced technology, and more
- 21 focused Safety Bulletins on topics ranging from autorotations to visibility issues
- 12 Reel Safety audio-visual presentations
- 18 Safety Fact Sheets
- More than 80 educational slide presentations