

Great Western Painting

Offshore Helicopter Safety

OFFSHORE HELICOPTER SAFETY

API RP T-1 Orientation Programs for Personnel Going Offshore for the First Time

All employees whose job duties require that they engage in offshore work will receive initial water survival and offshore orientation training prior to any offshore activities. Additionally, they will receive annual refresher training.

This training will be given in-house by competent persons. Training will be documented by utilizing training sign-in sheets. The Safety Director is responsible for maintenance of training records and these records will be maintained at a local location, specifically, the Safety Director's office. Documentation of training will be furnished on those employees whose work location varies.

Training will fulfill the requirements of the U.S. Department of Interior Material Management Service as well as the above reference API documents which may be purchased from the [API web site](#).

Training will include:

- a. A description of the appropriate work cloths and PPE for specific jobs and locations. Consideration will be given to protection of skin, head, eyes, hands, feet, and respiratory and auditory systems. All PPE will be supplied by the company.
- b. An explanation of the requirement that firearms, illegal drugs and alcoholic beverages are prohibited on helicopters as well as offshore jobsites.
 1. Helicopter pilots may refuse to transport or board persons judged to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- c. A review of Chapter 5 of API RP T-1, *Orientation Programs for Personnel Going Offshore for the First Time*, October 1995, Reaffirmed March 2007. This chapter addresses normal and emergency operations for helicopter transportation.

Helicopter Transportation – Normal Operations

Follow the pilot's instructions – the pilot is in complete charge of the helicopter and its passengers.

Provide the pilot (or dispatcher) all requested information before boarding which may include your name, total weight including gear, company affiliation, and destination.

Do not put anything in the luggage compartment without approval from the pilot. Remember the manifest contains the weight of everything on board and it must be accurate for safe flying.

A member of the flight crew, the Helicopter Landing Officer [HLO], or a qualified platform escort must escort passengers at all times while on the helideck.

Passengers must ensure that all personal gear (caps, hats, gloves, etc.) in the vicinity of helicopter operations is properly stowed inside a bag or container. Hard hats and boots may be securely strapped to the exterior of a bag or container.

If personal protective equipment is required to be worn in or around helicopter operations, the personal protective equipment must be secured to the individual by an approved strap or by other approved method.

Remain clear of the tail rotor at all times. Approach and disembark from the helicopter toward the front or side of the aircraft. Never walk under or near the tail rotor. In high winds, approach and depart the helicopter in a crouched position well below the rotor tips.

Take care to not damage the floats while boarding or disembarking

Wear a PFD while on board the helicopter and store it properly after the flight. The pilot will tell you where to sit and you must fasten your seat belt securely. Do not unfasten the seat belt until the pilot signals you to disembark.

Passenger **use of cell phones is not permitted** and cell phones must be turned off and stowed during flight.

Smoking is not permitted on a helideck or in the vicinity of helicopter operations.

Never throw anything in the water!

Helicopter Transportation – Emergency Operations

Stay calm, follow the pilot instructions. If an emergency landing is taking place, help will arrive soon.

Keep seat belt fastened securely and mentally review the procedures to be followed once on the water.

DO NOT release emergency exists until the rotor blades have stopped turning.

If helicopter is upright (and on floats), remain in the helicopter.

Carefully place the life raft outside the cabin, maintaining control by holding the “D” ring handle or lanyard.

If wearing an inflatable PFD, not dot inflate until out of the cabin.

If PFD gas is leaking out, you can re-inflate it by blowing into the tubes on both sides of it.

If necessary to get into the raft, try to stay near the helicopter.

Remove signaling devices from the survival kit and be prepared to deploy them.

Do deploy the sea anchor to help hold your location.

Tie multiple rafts together and avoid letting them rub each other.