

RP 004 | DAMAGED OR MISSING HELIDECK PERIMETER NET and/or NON-COMPLIANT FRICTION SURFACE

1. PURPOSE

Helideck perimeter netting is prescribed in CAP 437 - Standards for offshore helicopter landing areas Chapter 3 para 3.50 - 3.51 plus notes.

However, there may be occasions that the helideck perimeter net has been damaged, or a section has to be replaced therefore missing prior to a helicopter arrival. This RP also applies if the friction surface has been assessed as non-compliant with no helideck net fitted. This Recommended Practice provides guidance in order to maintain safe helicopter operations.

2. COURSE OF ACTION

Provided the following precautions are adhered to then helicopter operations can continue:

- › A full risk assessment is carried out by Duty Holder.
- › HCA to be informed of the issue and timeline for repair/replacement of perimeter net.
- › Temporary repair or replacement of missing panels is to be carried out as soon as practicable and details for permanent repair notified to HCA.
- › Duty Holder to add comment on the daily flying brief and/or Met Report to the Helicopter Operator.
- › Additional personnel to be available to direct passengers away from affected area after the aircraft has landed and clearance by the crew has been given to the HLO.
- › Passengers to be briefed on abnormal procedures when arriving and departing the helideck prior to boarding aircraft onshore and offshore.
- › Where possible, passengers may be disembarked on the opposite side of the deck to where the perimeter net damage has occurred.
- › For a non-compliant friction surface a helideck net should be fitted whilst the reestablishment of the surface is scheduled.

In Addition:

The following operating wind limitations will apply until a permanent repair has been carried out:

- › Manned fixed installations – Maximum forecast or actual wind speed ≤ 30 knots.
- › Unmanned installations – Maximum forecast or actual wind speed ≤ 25 knots (the reduction in wind speed reflects the non-availability of additional personnel).
- › Vessels – Maximum allowable wind speed ≤ 25 knots and stable conditions to apply i.e. 1° pitch & roll and 0.4 m/s SHR.

If there are any doubts or questions on continued helicopter operations during a period of a damaged or missing helideck perimeter net, please contact either the helicopter operator or HCA on info@helideck.org

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