

Verification of Vertical Reference External Load Training and Proficiency

Interagency helicopter standards require that Contractors develop a vertical reference/external load training syllabus and that contract pilots receive this training before applying for agency special use approval. The applicant shall have a minimum of 10 hours of vertical reference/external load flight training during initial qualification and a minimum of 2 hours of annual recurrent training prior to use under the contract. The contract pilot shall have a current proficiency endorsement from the company's chief pilot in order to qualify for a flight evaluation by an interagency helicopter inspector pilot.

The pilot shall be able to demonstrate proficiency with a 150-foot-length line and

- A. Exhibit knowledge by explaining the elements of external load operations.
- B. Perform a thorough preflight briefing of ground personnel to include hookup procedures, signals, pilot, and ground personnel actions in the event of an emergency or hook malfunction.
- C. Visually determine that the cargo hook(s) and cables are installed properly and that electrical and manual releases are functioning properly.
- D. Ascend vertically using vertical reference techniques while centered over the load until the load clears the ground, then maintain a stable hover with a load 10 feet (\pm 5 feet) above the ground for 30 seconds.
- E. Control the hook movement and stop load oscillations while in a hover.
- F. Maintain positive control of the load throughout the flight while maintaining specified altitude within 50 feet, airspeed within 10 knots, and heading within 10 degrees.
- G. Maintain the proper approach angle and rate of closure to establish an out-of-ground effect hover with the load 10 feet above the ground (\pm 5 feet) for 30 seconds. The load will then be placed within a 10-foot radius of the specified release/touchdown point.
- H. Maintain the proper approach angle and rate of closure to establish an out-of-ground effect hover within a confined area with the load 10 feet above the ground (\pm 5 feet) for 30 seconds. The load will then be placed within a 10-foot radius of the specified release/touchdown point.

I certify that _____ has received _____ hours
(pilot's name) (no. of hr)
of vertical reference longline training within the past 12 calendar months and has demonstrated proficiency per the above-stated standards.

Chief pilot's signature

Date

Company