



FIRESCOPE: Night Air Operations - Helicopter Water Point Briefing Worksheet Checklist

This document is intended as a tool to provide air operations personnel guidance in coordinating methods and conducting a comprehensive briefing on the procedures to be utilized to conduct ground fill operations of tanked helicopters at night. Each of the items on this checklist must be **identified, determined, addressed** and/or **established** prior to commencing operations in order to ensure that personnel from every agency involved understand the details of the environment and processes that are to be used during that operational period.

Date: Incident Name:

Operational Period Start: End:

Helispot Conditions

- Determine the size, surface conditions, ground hazards and dust abatement precautions at the helispot.

- Establish a method for identifying the landing pad and the lighting configuration to be used.

- Establish safe approach and departure paths, identify aerial hazards and identify useful landmarks.

- Establish wind-shift decision points and establish change of direction procedures.



Communications

- Identify radio frequency(s) and protocol to be used for air-to-ground communication with the water point helispot.

- Identify reporting points to be used in order to manage spacing and sequencing into and out of the water point.

- Determine the hand signals to be used by personnel at the water point helispot.

Ground Fill Hose Lay

- Determine the configuration of the supply line to be used for helicopter ground fill operations.

- Identify the location of the supply line Shut-Off Valve relative to the aircraft.

- Determine the appropriate GPM flow rate for helicopter ground fill operations.



Tank Refilling Procedures

- Establish approach procedures for helicopters into the water point helispot.

- Identify the positioning for each person during approach, landing, take-off and departure.

- Determine a method for the pilot to signal helispot personnel approval to approach the aircraft.

- Determine a method for signaling to helispot personnel the desired amount of water.

- Establish departure procedures for helicopters out of the water point helispot.

- Establish emergency procedures for response to incidents or accidents at the water point helispot.