

# COS SAFETY SHARE

## WHAT WILL WE DO TO PREVENT THIS FROM HAPPENING HERE?

### FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE ROTOR WASH HAZARD SENDS CART OVERBOARD

#### What happened?

An aluminum cart was lost overboard. The cart was staged on the Living Quarters roof near a handrail. One of the helicopter pilots saw the cart go over the handrail and reported it to the HLO (Helicopter Landing Officer) personnel immediately after landing. The cart weighed approximately 60 lbs.

#### What went wrong?

Rotor wash from a landing helicopter blew the cart over a handrail into the Gulf of Mexico (approximately 220' below).

#### Why did it happen?

Helideck Manuals do not have any standard operator procedures (SOP) or checklists for HLO to reference for performing their duties. Crews did not recognize the wind turbulence created by helicopter would be strong enough to lift the cart over the handrail [from] where the cart was stored in a semi-tucked away location.

#### What areas were identified for improvement?

Aviation to develop Helideck SOP/ Roles & Responsibilities / Manuals for HLO to utilize. The manual will extensively cover downwash in the following areas: Daily Helideck & Helideck Equipment Readiness Inspection, Helicopter Pre-Arrival Checks, Helicopter Pre-Departure Checks, Flight Check-In Process, Engine Start / Rotor Engagement Process.

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