



## Canada - Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board

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### Safety Directive

#### OFFSHORE HELIDECKS

*Note: Replaces "Offshore Helideck Standards" directive (April 20, 2010).*

**File 20,100.12**

June 2018

Paragraph 5(1)(a) of the Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Installations Regulations states that every helicopter deck which forms part of an installation shall conform to Transport Canada TP 4414, Guidelines Respecting Helicopter Facilities on Ships. TP4414 is an archived publication that is no longer being updated.

CAP 437, *Standards for Offshore Helicopter Landing Areas*, published by the UK Civil Aviation Authority, is a standard that reflects the agreed international standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). CAP 437 is updated regularly to incorporate the latest technological changes and research regarding helicopter aviation safety.

The arrangements and practices described in CAP 437 are recognized by the Chief Safety Officer as reasonable measures to ensure the health and safety of employees, passengers and other individuals in respect of offshore helicopter operations, consistent with the duties of workplace parties under Part III.1 of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act.

Prior to commencing operations, Operators, in conjunction with their helicopter service providers, are directed to ensure that their offshore helicopter landing deck arrangements and practices are assessed against and conform to the requirements of the most recent edition of CAP 437.

Current operators with helidecks designed to the TP 4414 Standard are directed to provide the Chief Safety Officer with a report on proposed mitigations to address any circumstances where the requirements of CAP 437 are not presently attained.

Environmental conditions, helideck movement, and the presence of contaminants or other helideck surface degradation may negatively impact helideck friction coefficient and/or helicopter sliding forces. The following additional requirements must be met as reasonable measures to prevent the inadvertent movement of helicopters on helidecks in the Nova Scotia offshore area

1. A helideck landing net is to be used when indicated through annual helideck friction testing, or in the absence of such testing.
2. A helideck landing net is to be used year-round for all moving decks (i.e. vessels, non-fixed installations)
3. A helideck landing net is to be used when there is a risk of snow, ice, or other contaminants that may reduce the friction coefficient of the deck (i.e. guano).
4. When used, helideck landing nets must have a profile sufficient to resist sliding forces, considering both the helicopter and environmental conditions. Frictape is not permitted.

If you have any questions regarding this Directive, please contact:

*Chief Safety Officer*  
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