



HUET (Helicopter Underwater Escape Training)

4 – 8 January 2027
Vienna (Austria)



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Introduction to HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training:

Helicopter transportation is essential for offshore and remote operations, yet it carries unique safety challenges, particularly during emergency water landings. The HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training equips participants with the theoretical knowledge and skills necessary to survive and safely escape from a helicopter in the event of a ditching or capsizing incident.

This HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training course emphasizes critical survival strategies, safety procedures, and emergency preparedness relevant to offshore oil and gas, marine, and aviation industries. Participants will explore key concepts, including underwater disorientation, the use of breathing apparatus, and survival at sea.

The HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training program integrates international safety standards and prepares individuals for real-world emergencies. It enhances confidence and decision-making under extreme conditions, ensuring compliance with global offshore safety regulations. Learners gain insights into aviation safety, risk management, and post-crash survival measures.

Targeted Groups:

This HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training targets professionals seeking specialized knowledge and skills:

- Offshore oil and gas industry personnel.
- Marine and shipping crew members.
- Helicopter pilots and flight engineers.
- Offshore wind farm and renewable energy workers.
- Safety and emergency response officers.
- Contractors and visitors traveling to offshore installations.
- Search and rescue professionals.
- Aviation and logistics personnel supporting offshore operations.

Targeted Competencies:

Participants will gain the following competencies during the HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training program:

- Ability to assess helicopter-related risks.
- Proficiency in identifying emergency exits and escape routes.
- Knowledge of underwater safety principles.
- Skills in managing panic and disorientation.
- Competence in using breathing equipment correctly.
- Understanding survival priorities post-ditching.
- Capability to support rescue and evacuation efforts.
- Improved communication during emergency response.
- Analytical skills for risk and safety assessments.
- Awareness of global offshore aviation safety practices.

Course Objectives:

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training course:

- Understand the principles of helicopter safety and emergency protocols.
- Identify potential hazards during offshore helicopter operations.
- Analyze emergencies and evaluate survival strategies.
- Demonstrate awareness of underwater disorientation risks.
- Learn theoretical concepts for escaping submerged helicopters.
- Apply breathing techniques and safety equipment knowledge.
- Develop critical thinking for survival and post-crash actions.
- Enhance decision-making during high-pressure emergencies.
- Acquire knowledge of international aviation safety standards.
- Prepare for coordinated rescue and evacuation procedures.
- Strengthen understanding of risk management principles.
- Build confidence to respond effectively in critical incidents.
- Integrate teamwork and communication strategies in emergencies.

Studying Scenarios:

In this HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training, participants will develop their skills through the analysis of the following scenarios:

- Helicopter ditching due to engine failure over water.
- Capsizing scenarios with partial or full submersion.
- Underwater escape with obstructed exits.
- Sudden cabin flooding during evacuation.
- Nighttime ditching with limited visibility.
- Emergency breathing apparatus deployment.
- Rescue coordination and survival until pickup.
- Case studies on real offshore helicopter incidents.
- Human factor errors during emergency evacuations.
- Survival challenges in rough weather conditions.

Course Content:

Unit 1: Introduction to Offshore Helicopter Safety:

- Overview of helicopter operations in offshore environments.
- Key safety regulations and compliance standards.
- Common risks associated with offshore air travel.
- International safety protocols and best practices.
- Overview of past ditching incidents and lessons learned.
- Understanding human factors in aviation safety.
- The role of HUET in global offshore industries.
- Importance of situational awareness during flights.
- Safety culture development in offshore aviation.

Unit 2: Emergency Preparedness and Risk Management:

- Risk identification and mitigation strategies.
- Types of helicopter emergencies and causes.
- Safety equipment and its theoretical use.
- Passenger briefing procedures and pre-flight safety checks.
- Understanding emergency signals and evacuation drills.
- Human Behavior in Crisis and Panic Management.
- Key risk management frameworks for offshore travel.
- Responsibilities of passengers and crew in emergencies.
- Legal and Organizational Obligations for Helicopter Safety.

Unit 3: Underwater Escape Procedures:

- Helicopter buoyancy and ditching dynamics explained.
- Safety Harness Use and Emergency Release Systems.
- Identifying and locating exits underwater.
- Managing disorientation in submerged helicopters.
- Correct breathing techniques in emergencies.
- Emergency Breathing System EBS theoretical knowledge.
- Cabin flooding scenarios and safe exit routes.
- Escape techniques for capsized helicopters.
- Psychological preparation for underwater escape.

Unit 4: Survival and Post-Ditching Strategies:

- Immediate actions after water impact.
- Sea survival principles and priorities.
- Theoretical use of life vests and rafts.
- Hypothermia prevention and body heat retention.
- Survival signaling techniques for rescue.
- Group survival and teamwork coordination.
- Managing injuries while awaiting rescue.
- Emergency communication devices and protocols.
- International search and rescue standards overview.

Unit 5: Case Studies and Regulatory Compliance:

- Analysis of major helicopter ditching incidents.
- Lessons learned from past offshore accidents.
- International Civil Aviation Organization ICAO safety guidelines.
- Offshore Petroleum Industry Training Organization OPITO standards.
- Organizational compliance and auditing procedures.
- Psychological resilience in post-incident scenarios.
- Continuous improvement in helicopter safety.
- Future trends in offshore aviation safety training.
- Best Practices for Developing a Long-Term Safety Culture.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways:

The HUET Helicopter Underwater Escape Training course equips participants with essential knowledge to respond effectively during offshore helicopter emergencies. It enhances awareness of safety procedures, emergency escape methods, and survival strategies under challenging conditions. Learners gain confidence to make rapid decisions and coordinate with rescue teams. Ultimately, the program ensures preparedness, compliance, and safety in offshore aviation operations.