

PORT NOTICE

Helicopter Operations at Fort Hill Wharf

PN/030

OPS-LEG-30

General Manager, Operations

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PREFACE

This Port Notice is issued pursuant to Section 57 of the *Ports Management Act 2015 (NT)*.

SCOPE

This notice applies to all helicopter operators and/or vessel masters that intend to undertake commercial helicopter operations at Fort Hill Wharf.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Aerodrome	An area of land or water (including any buildings, installations and equipment), the use of which as an aerodrome is authorised under the regulations, being such an area intended for use wholly or partly for the arrival, departure or movement of aircraft.

DIRECTION

Aviation and vessel operators are permitted to undertake helicopter operations in accordance with [Marine Order 57](#) (Helicopter Operations) 2016 and International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) *Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations*, 5th Edition (2021) at Fort Hill Wharf with the approval of the Regional Harbour Master and General Manager, Operations at Darwin Port.

For noise abatement requirements, operations at Fort Hill Wharf are only permitted between the hours of 07:00 and 18:00.

Prior to any planned helicopter operations, Form – *Application to Conduct Helicopter Operations* attached as Appendix 1 must be completed and submitted to the General Manager, Operations at Darwin Port and the NT Regional Harbour Master or delegates not less than forty eight (48) hours prior to the planned operation.

Nothing in this Port Notice will exempt the helicopter pilot, operator or vessel Master from the requirements of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*. Sections of Darwin Harbour may be considered an “aerodrome” for float equipped helicopters under definition in the Act.

Defence aviation operations are exempt from this Port Notice.

REVIEW STATEMENT

This Port Notice will be reviewed biennially by the Port Management Officer.

REFERENCES

- *Ports Management Act (2015)*
- *NT Marine Act (1981)*
- *Marine Order 57*
- *Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations*, 5th Edition (2021)



PETER DUMMETT
Port Operator
Darwin Port
2 December 2024

Appendix 1 – Application to Conduct Helicopter Operations

Application to Conduct Helicopter Operations

All vessels seeking to conduct helicopter operations within the Port of Darwin are required to submit the Helicopter Operations Application Form. The Darwin Port General Manager Operations and the Regional Harbour Master will assess each application and provide a written response directly to the applicant. The applicant shall provide evidence demonstrating compliance to the *Marine Order 57 (MO57)*, the *International Chamber of Shipping Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations* and other relevant legislations relating to aviation and helicopter operations.

The approval is given for the purpose of the *Ports Management Act 2015* and not for any other law, engineering, design or environment standard.

Applicant details	
Vessel Name:	
Vessel Agent:	
Address	
Phone	
Email address	
Description of vessel – helicopter operations	

Terms of approval				
Declaration	Yes	No	N/A	Include relevant section number of the SMS, or attach Certificate of Compliance where applicable.
We have obtained a Certificate of Airworthiness issued by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) for all aircraft relating to this submission.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We have obtained a Certificate of Registration issued by CASA for all aircraft relating to this submission.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We confirm that we have obtained all necessary Certificate of Insurances for Helicopter Operations including Aviation and Aviation Liability Insurance.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Will your ship comply with the <i>International Chamber of Shipping Guide to Helicopter/Ship Operations</i> , and <i>Marine Order 57 (MO57)</i> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We have considered the impact to other port users and have implemented controls to mitigate the risk to as low as is reasonably practicable (eg. Exclusion zones during take off and landing). Vessel to provide evidence of risk mitigation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Safe Arrangements (AMSA MO57)				
We confirm that the vessel arrangements for helicopter operations comply with Section 6 of MO57	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We confirm that the vessel arrangements for helicopter operations are included in the vessel's safety management system (SMS).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We confirm that SMS instruction, equipment and training in helicopter operations has been provided to the vessel's seafarers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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We confirm that the landing or winching area on the vessel meets or exceeds the recommendations in the ICS Guide/ MO 57?, including marking of obstacles, and the area can withstand the static and dynamic loads imposed by a helicopter landing on that surface.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Operations				
The vessel will ensure that notification shall be made to Darwin Port Harbour Control no less than 60 minutes prior to take off and landing on the vessel when operating within Darwin Port limits.				
We confirm the Helicopter landing area is well marked as required by ICS/MO57				
We confirm that the Approach path and Manoeuvring Zone will be kept clear of obstructions and loose objects when landing/take off clearance is given.				
We confirm that the safety zone requirement will be implemented during approaching, landing and taking off of the helicopter from the vessel.				
We confirm that the firefighting equipment and the crew will be in readiness at helideck during take-off and landing of the helicopter.				
We confirm a rescue boat will be kept in readiness for immediate lowering during take-off and landing of the helicopter.				
Exceptions				
We acknowledge that this application is for helicopter operations from the vessel during daylight hours only.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
We acknowledge that this application does not include refuelling operations within the Port of Darwin. A separate application shall be made for refuelling activities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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We confirm that helicopter operations from the vessel will only be conducted if all required regulatory approvals remain valid.		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Full Name				Signature	
Place				Date	
Office use only					
Approval Conditions (Attach additional pages if required)					
Approval outcome	Approved <input type="checkbox"/>		Not approved <input type="checkbox"/>		
Signature:			Signature:		
General Manager Operations			Regional Harbour Master		
Name:			Name:		
Date:			Date:		