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**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2010 9:07 AM  
**Subject:** Small Aircraft /Helicopter First Responder Training from the FAA

After over a year of coordinating with many of your organizations to gather input and information, the FAA Small Airplane Directorate has finally released a web based training presentation for first responders at a small aircraft or helicopter accident scene. Because of all of your help, this collection of material has grown into a very comprehensive yet concise collection of safety information. Much of the material may also be of value to anyone that may be likely to come across an accident scene, such as airport/aviation work force, law enforcement, search and rescue organizations, accident investigators, recovery workers, etc. Many of your organizations have planned to include this link on your websites, please do so and share this material with your organizations as you see fit. It still has some items that need slight revision, however the bulk of the material is there and it has a solid core of information.

The FAA First Responders Training can be found at the following site:

[http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/gen\\_av/first\\_responders/](http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/gen_av/first_responders/)

and we also *anticipate* a link from the following site:

[http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safetyfirst\\_responders/](http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safetyfirst_responders/)

In conjunction with this, I would like to note that additional first responder safety information from the individual manufacturers is being collected by the General Aviation Manufacturer Association. The FAA cannot identify manufacturer-specific information, so we have to use an outside organization to do this. GAMA is in the process of collecting this information (typically manufacturer links) and posting it at: <http://www.gama.aero/firstresponders>. If you are a manufacturer or even another professional organization that may have a collection of appropriate, public safety information, please consider sharing this with GAMA.

The following provides a brief overview of the training:

The training material is split into 5 Modules:

### **Module 1** Systems and Material Hazards

- Recommended for firefighters and EMS
- Primary module that identifies hazards unique to aircraft accidents
- Including: Scene Approach/Access, PPE, Combustion concerns, Bio-hazards, Material Hazards, Aircraft system hazards, Aircraft safety system (ballistic parachute systems and airbags)

### **Module 2** Aircraft Type Familiarization and Mission Specific Hazards

- Recommended for firefighters and EMS
- Outlines aircraft variations in service and hazards associated with certain aircraft usage
- Including: General types of small aircraft and helicopters, commercial roles of small aircraft/helicopters and associated hazards

### **Module 3** Command and Recovery

- Recommended for firefighters, EMS and law enforcement for aircraft accident protocol development.
- Recognizes operational protocol for managing an accident scene and requirements related to the investigation of the accident
- Including: Initial management of the scene, considerations for pending investigation and investigating authority(NTSB, FAA), scene preservation, security, witness/media considerations

### **Module 4** Ballistic Parachute System Familiarization

- Recommended for firefighters and recovery personnel.
- Provides information that will detail the installation, operation and techniques used by manufacturers to disable a Ballistic Parachute System so that the first responder will have a better understanding if tasked by the manufacturer to disable the system
- Including: system identification/overview/operation, considerations for manufacturer disabling

### **Module 5** Systems and Material Hazards for Rescuers

- Recommended for police, airport and the aviation community or others that may be tasked with initial rescue.
- Provides material from Module 1, however recognizes that PPE may not be equivalent to firefighter/EMS SCBA and does not address extrication**
- Including: Scene Approach/Access, PPE, Combustion concerns, Bio-hazards, Material Hazards, Aircraft system hazards, Aircraft safety system (ballistic parachute systems and airbags)

Note: Future Module 6 (still in work) will address safely working around a running helicopter, including landing zone selection, hazard areas around a running helicopter, and landing zone protocol.

I am the point of contact for this material, if you have comments or questions, please let me know. Again, if you have been a player in developing this, thanks again for all of your help!

Best regards,

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