



# IHST

**International Helicopter Safety Team**  
Our Vision: An International Civil Helicopter Community With Zero Accidents

[www.IHST.org](http://www.IHST.org) and on the IHST Facebook page.

## *HELICOPTER SAFETY QUICK FACTS*

### **What are the Causes of Most Fatal Helicopter Accidents?**

There are external reasons and there are internal reasons.

One out of every five fatal helicopter accidents stem from loss of control issues. Next on the list are visibility issues such as darkness, fog, glare, and unexpectedly traveling from visual meteorological conditions into instrument meteorological conditions. And the third-most cited source for fatal accidents is wire strikes.

So what could cause pilots to lose control, to probe into the dark night, to fly into poor weather, or to hit wires? Many times, the internal reason stems from attitude. Some pilots don't want to listen to advice, act impulsively, feel that they are invulnerable, or just take too many operational risks until luck runs out on them.

*The IHST promotes safety and works to reduce civil helicopter accidents worldwide. The organization was formed in 2005 to lead a government and industry cooperative effort to address factors that were affecting an unacceptable helicopter accident rate. The group's vision is an international civil helicopter community with zero accidents with a goal to reduce the international civil helicopter accident rate by 80 percent by 2016. More information about the IHST, its reports, safety tools, and*



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