



## European Aviation Safety Agency

Jules Kneepkens • Rulemaking Director

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**Subject:** Helicopter Ditching, Water Impact & Survivability Workshop  
Monday 5 December 2011 (14:00 h – 17:00 h) and  
Tuesday 6 December 2011 (09:00 h – 17:00 h)  
Pullman Hotel Cologne (Ballroom C+D)

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to attend our **"Helicopter Ditching, Water Impact & Survivability Workshop"** to be held at the Pullman Hotel Cologne (Helenenstraße 14, D-50667, Cologne, Ballroom C+D) on 5-6 December 2011, in connection with and just prior to the 5th Rotorcraft Symposium.

Helicopter Ditching, water impact and consequent survivability have been the focus of significant research and rulemaking activities over many years. This followed a number of fatal off-shore helicopter accidents in the North Sea and elsewhere, and again was recently highlighted as an issue in a tragic accident off the coast of Canada. Experience has shown that water impact events are often fatal even if a successful ditching or emergency landing on water is performed.

The primary objectives of this workshop are:

1. To review the state-of-the-art in helicopter design for water impact, ditching & survivability,
2. To exchange ideas and promote best practice,
3. To identify weak areas of regulation in order to scope future rulemaking proposed to start in 2012,
4. To present results of recent research activities and to identify future research needs.

This event will be published on the EASA Website (Events):  
[http://www.easa.europa.eu/home/g\\_events.html](http://www.easa.europa.eu/home/g_events.html)

You are kindly requested to indicate your interest by completing the "registration form" on the EASA website (Events), and to submit it via e-mail, to our functional mailbox ([R4-workshops@easa.europa.eu](mailto:R4-workshops@easa.europa.eu)) **before Friday 28 October 2011**. The workshop is free but only accessible to registered participants, who will receive confirmation of participation. A buffet lunch will be provided free of charge on the second day.

For additional information, please contact Mr David Haddon by e-mail to [david.haddon@easa.europa.eu](mailto:david.haddon@easa.europa.eu)

Welcome of participants will start at 13.00 on Monday 5 December and the workshop will start at 14:00 and finish no later than 17:00 on the following day.

I hope that you will find this event of interest and we look forward to meeting you.

Yours faithfully,

J. KNEEPKENS