

David Nelson



THE SUPERYACHT HELIDECK OPERATING ENVIRONMENT



SUPERYACHTS

- Estimates show around 200 luxury motor yachts over 60m worldwide

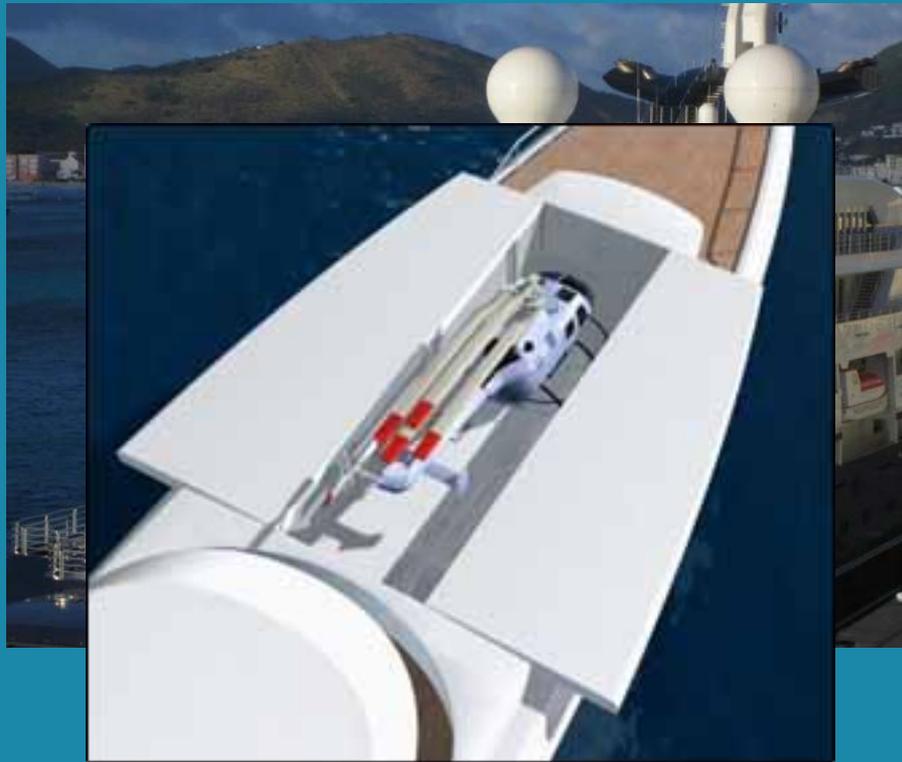


TYPES OF HELIDECK

There are 3 main types of Helideck:



HANGARS



HELIDECK REGULATIONS

- Must conform to Classification society and registered Flag State rules
- Meet SOLAS requirements
- Red Ensign Group
- Build standards iaw UK MCA - LY3 or PYC
- Certified for commercial use by UK HCA
- Other - Flag State aviation inspectorate

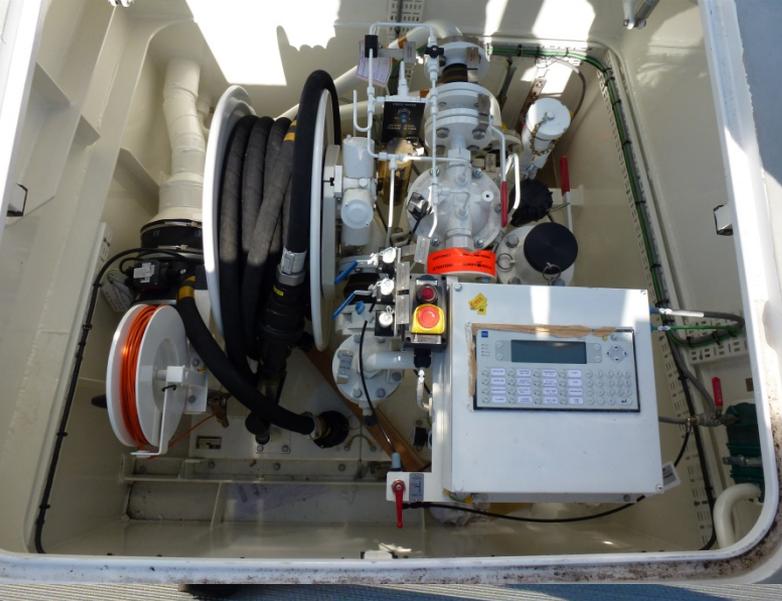
HELIDECK REGULATIONS

- Private need only meet SOLAS and Class/Flag requirements
- Occasional use or 'Touch-and-Go' pads very common but most are unaware of limitations and hazards

FACTORS AFFECTING PILOTS

- Limited space
- Visual cues
- Vessel motion
- Airwake turbulence

FACTORS AFFECTING CREW



- Preparations
- Contingency plans
 - Firefighting
 - Rescue
- Refuel
- Helicopter moves

RECURRING SAFETY ISSUES

Superyacht owners more interested in aesthetics than operating capability and safety

- Confined area landings
- VCE
- Guardrails
- Tie down
- Lighting



LIGHTING

- Standards include some form of Floodlighting and/or deckwash

- Moving lights and LED strips



MANAGEMENT OF SAFETY ISSUES

- Crew training
 - Commercial by MCA accredited course
 - Private no requirement but ...
- Risk assessment
- Operating manual
- Integration at design and build



SUMMARY

- My personal aim is to make the Helideck environment as safe as possible
- Shipbuilders are unaccustomed to superyacht Helidecks but getting better
- Education increasing through career progression

It all started here...



The Future!



Any Questions

