NTSB ISSUES TWO SAFETY ALERTS FOCUSING ON IMPROVING HELICOPTER SAFETY

The National Transportation Safety Board recently issued two Safety Alerts highlighting the importance of proper maintenance and simulator training as critical ways to improve helicopter safety. This year, helicopter safety was added to the NTSB's Most Wanted List of Safety Improvements. In the past decade, over 1,500 accidents have occurred involving helicopters used as air ambulances, for search and rescue missions, commercial helicopter operations such as tour flights, and instructional operations. During that same time, the NTSB issued over 200 safety recommendations on issues related to helicopter investigations.

The two Safety Alerts are *Safety Through Helicopter Simulators* and *Helicopter Safety Starts in the Hangar*. Accompanying the safety alerts are two videos, produced in conjunction with Helicopter Association International. Featured in the videos are NTSB investigators sharing their perspectives about the lessons learned from helicopter accident investigations. The Safety Alerts and the two videos are available at:

http://www.ntsb.gov/safety/safety_alerts.html
http://www.ntsb.gov/safety/safety_videos.html