

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Framework for the GHS Environmental Policy

There are two important frameworks that influence Global Helicopter Service's Environmental Policy.

- 1) The UN Global Compact, more specifically with the "Environmental Principles" 7 to 9:
 - Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
 - Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
 - Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
- 2) In 2009 the International Air Transport Organization (IATA) recognized the need to address the global challenge of climate change and adopted a set of ambitious targets to mitigate CO₂ emissions from air transport, by far the largest contributor to environmental pollution.

The "Agreement on the Stabilization of Carbon Emissions" consists of 3 ambitious targets to reduce CO₂ emissions:

1. An average improvement in fuel efficiency of 1.5% per year from 2009 to 2020
2. A cap on net aviation CO₂ emissions from 2020 (carbon-neutral growth)
3. A reduction in net aviation CO₂ emissions of 50% by 2050, relative to 2005 levels

IATA stated, in order to achieve these targets, a strong commitment is required from all stakeholders working together through the four so-called pillars of the aviation industry strategy:

4. Technology, i.e. Improved technology, including the deployment of sustainable aviation fuels.
5. Operations, i.e. more efficient aircraft operations
6. including modernized air traffic management systems
7. Positive economic instruments, i.e. a single global market-based measure, to fill the remaining emissions gap

The GHS Focus

Whereas the IATA 2009 agreement solely focused on the reduction of CO2 emissions as the largest contributor to environmental burden caused by air travel and technology has by far the best prospects for reducing CO2 emissions of commercial aircraft, there are few developments in helicopter technology that can contribute to the reduction CO2 emissions. Therefore, GHS focusses on operations and infrastructure not only to minimize CO2 emissions but also to aim for a precautionary approach to environmental challenges, to take more environmental responsibility and to adapt environmentally friendly technologies wherever possible as described below:

1) Modernize the fleet

Global Helicopter Service prefers the use of modern and fuel-efficient aircraft and operates them whenever technically and economically feasible.

2) Promote alternative fuels

Sustainable, alternative fuels with a better CO2 footprint are a key component in avoiding emissions in the future. The raw materials used may not be produced in a way that creates direct competition with the production of foodstuffs. Other conditions include a proven environmental benefit and adequate availability at an acceptable price. As soon as alternative fuels are available and can be used to operate the helicopters in our fleet these fuels will be used.

3) Increase operational efficiency

Aircraft operations provide numerous opportunities to optimize efficiency. This includes optimum flight routings, efficient aircraft capacities and the optimization of the logistic chain between the GHS headquarter and our missions. Whenever possible we combine cargo-/passenger-flights between the GHS headquarter and our missions in a way that minimizes the number of flight necessary to operate the aircraft in our missions. Global Helicopter Service is steadily continuing its efforts in this field.

4) Improve infrastructure

Inefficient or insufficient infrastructure in the air and on the ground leads to unnecessary fuel consumption. Here, we count on the aviation authorities of the countries we operate in and, on our customers, to support our efforts to reduce fuel-burn.

5) Reduce aircraft noise

Residents living near airfields must be protected from unacceptable levels of noise. GHS takes this aspect into consideration when it comes to mission specific operating procedures.

Our home base in Kirchanschöring, Bavaria is located in an extremely noise sensitive area. Various self-imposed restrictions on air activities and close co-ordination of those with the aviation authority as well as the local government safeguard minimum exposure of the residents to aircraft noise.

Off course, GHS takes the potential to reduce aircraft noise to an absolute minimum into consideration when it comes to mission specific operating procedures.

6) Optimize flight procedures

Global Helicopter Service is advancing the development of low-noise flight procedures. As new flight procedures must take security aspects, capacity and efficiency into account, all the system partners - airports, landing sites, air traffic control services and the military of countries we operate in – must pull together.

7) Build and commute green

Conservation of natural resources remains central to Global Helicopter Service.

We have recently moved to a modern and energy efficient corporate headquarter. The administration buildings are connected to the local district heating system where heat and electricity are generated by means of burning renewable resources.

The flight line-/maintenance hangar will be connected to this energy grid shortly.

Furtheron, there is a program in place that will significantly increase the usage of solar electricity produced via photovoltaic cells mounted on the roofs of our buildings.

Whenever technically possible and financially feasible, GHS operates electric vehicles rather than vehicles powered by combustion engines.

Our employees are invited to use green means of transportation whenever possible. Bicycles, pedelecs, hybrid/electric vehicles and public transportation are preferred over vehicles powered by combustion engines and air travel.

If ever possible, similar measures are implemented in all GHS missions.

8) Expand environmental management

Global Helicopter Service manages environmental protection. All our Strategies, measures and missions are coordinated with our efforts to protect the environment. Therefore, an Environmental Management System (EMS) that is compliant with ISO 14001 has recently been set up by Global Helicopter Service and will be systematically expanded and further developed at all levels. Please refer to the description of the EMS for further details.