



— Ground Crew Training *Course*

The Volo Mission ground crew course was designed to provide ground crew members new to the external-load industry a comprehensive training experience.

Completing the Volo Mission ground crew training course is important to maintaining safety working around helicopter operations, as well as understanding the crewmembers significant role in this unique working environment.

The course is designed for:

- Companies and agencies with new hires
- Companies entering the external-load business
- Companies and agencies seeking inclusive training solutions

The Course Includes:

- Fundamentals of ground crew (i.e. responsibility, safety around helicopters, etc.)
- Job site set-up
- Webinar training on the safety, care, and handling of the long line
- Ground crew operations/communications training (hand signals, radio communications)
- Safety training and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Ground Crew accident case-studies
- Learn environmental risk factors for external-load operations (i.e. flight path, falling trees/loads, noise, downwash)
- External-load operational tips
- Certificate of completion
- Daily transportation to and from course and designated hotel
- Volo Mission Welcome Pack
- Daily mid-morning and afternoon power boost break

Course Structure

HELICOPTER ETIQUETTE

Learning the unique environment of working in the utility/external-load industry is the focus of this section of training.

Classroom

- Importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and what is required
- Confined area and complex load operational hazards and tips
- Relevant information pertaining to external-load industry
- Case studies
- Emergency Plan: what to do, who to call
- Part 133 requirements
- Hazards of working around helicopters
- Responsibility of Ground Crew
- Helipads: clearance, visibility, size, and construction

Site

- Preflight of hooks, lines, and equipment
- Safety: approaching helicopter, danger areas, signal from pilot
- Staging areas: locate wind direction
- Learn to hook/unhook a load
- Learn to set up different staging areas
- Work with long line equipment: medical litter, air conditioning unit, chokers, pole-in-the-hole. Each exercise has a different method for working with the equipment.
- Helicopter refueling
- Helipads

Course Structure (cont.)

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication between ground crew and the pilot are essential in order to maintain a safe working environment. Ground crew will learn their vital role and how to effectively communicate with all crewmembers (flight and ground).

Classroom

- How to conduct a safety briefing and the importance of having a safety briefing
- Site plans and safe zones
- External-load terminology

Training Site

- Two-way radio communications with pilot
- Hand signals
- Work with ground crew communication equipment: ribbon, blobby, mirror, paint, etc.
- Crew meetings
- Identify hazards
- Understanding pilots perspective

— **Ground Crew who complete the *Volo Mission* ground crew course are:**

- Safe
- Knowledgeable
- Valuable to the operation
- Team players