

Record of Interview

Name: Tim Brennan
Address: Chief Flight Instructor
Quantum Helicopters, Chandler, AZ
Phone: [REDACTED]
Date: 4/20/2022, at 5:15 PM
Location: Telephone Interview
Subject: Pilot Training in the R22 related to the accident of N7516G
ASI: Richard A. Chagnon

Interview with Tim Brennan, Chief Flight Instructor at Quantum Helicopters

1. Question – How does the grading system numbers apply to student training as documented in the student training folder?

Answer – They use the numbers 2 through 5. 2 means that the pilot performed the maneuver within ACS/PTS standards. 3 means that the pilot needed some assistance or information from the CFI. 4 means that the pilot did not complete some of the steps correctly for that event and minor CFI involvement was required. 5 means that the student failed the event and/or required significant CFI involvement.

2. Question – How many simulated Autorotations are performed on a student prior to a cross country solo flight?

Answer – Simulated Autorotations are practiced on almost every training flight. The training folder shows that one is graded but the student pilot may have practiced multiple simulated Autorotations during a single flight. There are no number counts used in the training folder.

3. Question – How many simulated Autorotations did this particular student complete prior to his first solo cross country flight.

Answer – The student training folder will show if simulated Autorotations were practiced during a training flight. The total number is not known but the folder will show each training flight and if simulated Autorotations were practiced.

Inspector comment: A review of this student's pilot training folder shows that out of 34 training flights with Quantum Helicopters, autorotations were practiced on 16 of those flights.

4. Question – Are students trained and evaluated on other emergency procedures? Specifically, are students trained on a simulated Alternator failure?

Answer – Yes. Students are trained on all emergency procedures. Students are evaluated on their response to an alternator failure at each stage check.

5. Question – What is the emergency procedure for an illumination of an alternator light?

Answer – Per the POH, the emergency procedure for an alternator failure is to reset the alternator switch. If the alternator does not come back on, the procedure is then to land as soon as practicable.

6. Question – What other indications will a pilot see if the alternator fails?

Answer – The pilot will also see a discharge or negative reading on the AMP meter.

7. Question – If the alternator fails in flight, approximately how much time does the pilot have to rely on battery power?

Answer – Unknown. Depending on the condition of the battery, the battery may last for about 15 – 30 minutes.

8. Question – How does Quantum Helicopters train the use of carb heat?

Answer – We follow the recommendations in the POH. Based on the outside temperature and dew point spread, the pilot is trained to follow the recommendations in the POH. If the POH states that carb heat may be required, primarily on descent, then the pilot will apply carb heat as recommended. As long as the locking lever is not locking the carb heat control, movement of the collective will also adjust the carb heat based on its set parameters.

9. Question – This student pilot had previous flight training experience with a different training facility in Utah from May through October 2021. He came to your program in January 2022 with approximately 54.1 hours of flight training experience. Why did this student require approximately 42.1 hours in your program to get him to the level he was at since he had the previous flight training experience with the other training facility?

Answer – This student pilot was enrolled in a VA approved training program at the start of his training here at Quantum Helicopters. The VA program pays for and requires a pilot to achieve a certain amount of aircraft flight training hours while in the program. Quantum Helicopters was following the requirements of the VA program. The previous training that this student received did not count towards this VA program.

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CHAGNON
Date: 2022.04.22 17:14:40
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Richard A. Chagnon
Aviation Safety Inspector
Scottsdale Flight Standards District Office – WP07