

Helicopter precision approaches using GNSS

Philip Church, Helios



(© Copyright Eurocopter, Jérôme Deulin)

Helicopter operations to the North Sea oil platforms have since the early 1980s relied on the use of weather radar as a landing aid through a procedure known as the Airborne Radar Approach (ARA). Whilst this was accepted at the time, increasingly it is recognised that the technique has its flaws and does not support the required level of safety. Over the past ten years, there has been a concerted effort to harness the benefits of satellite navigation (GPS and EGNOS) to implement approach procedures that are simpler to fly, repeatable and offer improved safety over the existing ARA. This work has resulted in a new approach procedure called the SBAS Offshore Approach Procedures (SOAP). The talk will explore the work that has been undertaken that has evolved to the development of the SOAP procedure including the simulations, data collection, prototype avionics development and flight trials used to validate the concept.

This event is free of charge and open to all, with refreshments at 19.00.

Contact: Dr Richard Mitchell
rjmitchell@theiet.org

<http://www.theiet.org/ec3/>

Thursday 25 April 2013 19.00 for 19.30
Cantley House Hotel, Milton Road, Wokingham, RG40 5QG

For directions please visit <http://www.cantleyhotel.co.uk/>