In-Flight Icing Products for Helicopters

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In-Flight Icing

Encounters with supercooled liquid water

- Liquid water at $T < 0^{\circ}C$
 - Ram air rise, depending on aircraft speed
- Clouds
- Precipitation (FZDZ, FZRA) SLD
- Most helicopters are not certified for icing
 - Avoidance is the focus
 - Clouds, precipitation at T < 0°C (+10°C & vis moist engine)</p>
 - Some have ice protection
 - Good to avoid icing
 - If you're going to encounter it
 - Where will it be (3-D space)
 - When will it be there?
 - How likely is it?
 - Will there be large drops? Certification is for small drop icing.
 - How severe will it be?

IFIPDT Products – CIP & FIP

Current Icing Product (CIP)

- Hourly diagnoses of icing, blending info from many sources

20km horizontal spacing CONUS & surroundings

1000ft (305m) vertical spacing

Icing Probability – Chance of ANY icing (avoidance)

SLD "Potential" – Uncalibrated chance of large drops

Icing Severity – Categorical (trace, light, mod, heavy)

- Fully operational Dec 2006, pending approval

Will be usable by pilots, dispatchers, meteorologists

Current operational version

Icing "Potential", SLD "Potential" - on Operational ADDS (Thompson)

Severity available on Experimental ADDS

Forecast Icing Product (FIP)

Forecasts out to 12 hours, updated every 1-3 hours

- Operational Products: Icing Potential, SLD Potential

Experimental Severity in March 2007, Operational Fall 2008

Alaskan versions – Experimental. Operational: FY09, FY10

The CIP Concept



The CIP Process



The FIP Process



Examples of CIP (Icing Probability)





Unprotected

Any chance of icing = no go?

Protected

- Where do you draw the line?
- Mission dependent?
- Visible moisture (T < +10°C)

Examples of CIP (SLD Potential)



- Protected, but not for SLD!
 - Any chance of SLD icing = no go?

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Examples of CIP (Icing Severity)





Unprotected

- Trace or higher = no go?
- Protected
 - Where do you draw the line?
- Put icing into context of other things
 - C/V, winds, turb, traffic, MVAs

Thank You

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