

News Release

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IMAGES: High-resolution visuals can be downloaded at: <u>http://www.gretemangroup.com/press/usaig-hai2017/</u>

USAIG Delivers World-Class Safety Initiatives Through Its Performance Vector Program

NEW YORK, NY (March 7, 2017) – As the aviation industry's attention shifts to HAI Heli-Expo 2017, USAIG reminds helicopter operators of tools to reinforce their safety programs. The show, which runs from March 7 through March 9, always emphasizes safety and best operating practices.

USAIG, one of the world's leading aviation-specific insurance providers, continually upgrades its popular Performance Vector suite of safety programs to keep pace with changes and improvements in aviation safety protocols. The forward-looking Performance Vector portfolio offers insights, strategies and specific practical steps for USAIG-insured operators of turbine aircraft. Eligible policyholders can choose annually from a range of safetyenhancing programs and services delivered by the industry's leading providers.

Helicopter operations demand peak human performance – the roles are dynamic, require flight at low altitudes, take place in demanding environments, and require long periods of concentrated effort that take place all around the 24-hour clock. USAIG Performance Vector provides helicopter operators key opportunities to enhance their safety—by optimizing pilots' physical wellness through **Mayo Clinic's ProPilot** program option, supporting peak cognitive readiness of pilots and maintenance technicians through the **Safety Bucks** program option, and strengthening an operation's safety management system through the **PRISM SMS** option.

Mayo Clinic's ProPilot program is designed to optimize pilot health, simplify sustaining FAA medical certification, and put the most trusted name in medicine in the pilot's corner if a condition threatening medical certification arises. The ProPilot program optimizes a pilot's readiness now, and helps sustain that readiness to enable long and productive pilot careers. Beyond the individual pilot, ProPilot benefits the flight organization by reducing the incidence of unanticipated pilot groundings for medical reasons, maximizing pilot readiness, and helping the organization clearly demonstrate its commitment to supporting wellness of the workforce. The annual Performance Vector safety benefit for eligible USAIG-insured operators can be used to enroll up to 10 pilots in the ProPilot program.

In addition to peak physical readiness, helicopter operations also require cognitive excellence. That means knowledge, proficiency, and decision making skills must be brought to and sustained at a high level to achieve safe operations. Routine, recurrent training with OEM-approved providers is how cognitive excellence is achieved and sustained, and Performance Vector supports that for both helicopter pilots and helicopter

maintenance technicians. Since 1997, USAIG's **Safety Bucks** program (now part of Performance Vector) has contributed more than \$6 million toward helicopter flight simulator and maintenance technician training received by USAIG policyholders. Safety Bucks can be applied at the flight simulator training center of choice for pilots, or for OEM-approved helicopter maintenance technician training courses relevant to equipment operated on USAIG-insured helicopters.

Keys to fostering a safe organizational culture include encouraging and valuing feedback and safety reports, using the information with discretion and transparency, and communicating quickly and effectively. USAIG Performance Vector has the tools helicopter operators need to achieve those aims in its **PRISM SMS** option. A PRISM Pro subscription provides online tools to manage hazard reporting, internal evaluation, pre-flight and pre-maintenance risk assessment, and change management evaluation processes, among other features. Eligible policyholders that use their Performance Vector annual safety benefit to become first time PRISM subscribers can get a year of PRISM Pro service at no cost. Policyholders that re-apply their safety benefit toward renewing PRISM subscriptions in subsequent years receive an offset that reduces their annual subscription renewal cost by more than 35%. PRISM's utilities incorporate enhanced flight risk analysis features to support unique air ambulance requirements. It can be configured for a single base of operations or partitioned to enable segregated reporting from multiple bases. PRISM's new "Safety Intelligence" features released in 2016 provide in-depth data visualization and reporting tools to help operators maximize learning and benefit from the safety data collected.

Performance Vector programs meet aviation regulatory requirements, accreditation protocols and industry recommended standards. Eligibility for additional Performance Vector services refreshes upon each policy renewal. The comprehensive array of program options available means operators will find a USAIG Performance Vector initiative to advance their specific safety program goals. For more information, please refer to the website: https://www.usau.com/caf_safety_performance_vector.php

About USAIG

United States Aircraft Insurance Group (USAIG) provides a full spectrum of coverage options for owners, operators, manufacturers and maintainers of corporate, private and commercial aircraft. In 1928, our founders – World War I pilots and businessmen David Beebe and Reed Chambers – saw the need for an insurance company that truly understood aviation. We remain a world aviation insurance leader delivering innovative, custom-tailored insurance products and services, including Performance Vector safety programs and Performance Vector PLUS good experience returns. Additionally, USAIG has established Performance Vector Unmanned specifically for UAS policyholders by providing the added benefit of safety services at no cost to the insured. United States Aviation Underwriters, Inc. manages USAIG, maintaining the industry's largest network of underwriting and field claims offices. USAU's wholly owned subsidiary, Toronto-based Canadian Aviation Insurance Managers manages the Canadian Aircraft Insurance Group insurance pool. USAIG is a subsidiary of General Re Corporation, a Berkshire Hathaway company. Follow us on Twitter @USAIG_CAIG, Facebook & LinkedIn. <u>usaig.com</u>