

GROUND CREW TRAINING COURSE



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VOLO MISSION'S GROUND CREW COURSE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING REQUIRED TO WORK AS A MEMBER OF THE GROUND CREW IN THE EXTERNAL-LOAD INDUSTRY.



Emphasizing safety, communication and fundamental skills, our course helps the trainee understand the significant role of the ground crew member in this unique working environment, and prepares him or her for a successful career in this extremely important and rewarding job.

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, including responsibilities, helicopter safety, etc.
- Job site set-up
- Webinar training on the safety, care, and handling of the long line
- Ground crew operations/communications training, including radio and hand signals
- Safety training and personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Accident case-studies
- Environmental risk factors for external-load operations (e.g., flight path, falling loads, noise, downwash)
- Professional tricks and tips
- Daily transportation to and from course
- Certificate of completion

COURSE STRUCTURE

LONG LINE OPERATIONS FUNDAMENTALS

Students will learn the responsibilities and special concerns of ground crew members in the unique environment of the utility/external-load industry.

CLASSROOM

- Introduction to the external-load industry
- Importance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and what is required
- Hazards of working around helicopters
- Confined area and complex load operational hazards and tips
- Case studies
- Emergency plan: What to do, who to call
- FAA Part 133 requirements
- Helipads: Clearance, visibility, size, and construction

HELICOPTER

- Preflight preparation of hooks, lines, and equipment
- Safety: Approaching the helicopter, danger areas, etc.
- Staging areas and wind direction
- Hooking and unhooking a load
- Setting up different staging areas
- Working with various long line components, including medical litters, air conditioning units, chokers, pole-in-the-hole
- Helicopter refueling
- Helipads



COMMUNICATIONS

Good communication between ground crew and the pilot are essential to maintaining a safe working environment. Students will learn about this vital role and how to effectively communicate with all crew members (flight and ground).

CLASSROOM

- The importance of safety briefings and how to conduct them
- Site plans and safe zones
- External-load terminology

TRAINING SITE

- Two-way radio communications with pilot
- Hand signals
- Ground crew communication equipment (e.g., ribbon, blobby, mirror, paint, etc.)
- Crew meetings
- Identifying hazards
- Understanding the pilot's perspective