

Terms of Reference

Vertical Aviation Safety Team (VAST)

Technology Working Group

Background:

Under the VAST structure, working groups may be established to assist regional safety teams and/or global vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) aircraft stakeholders in any number of duties including the collection, analysis, and distribution of useful information germane to the VTOL industry. VAST working groups operate in a collaborative manner under the direction of the VAST Advisors and with the guidance of the VAST Steering Committee.

Objectives:

The VAST Technology Working Group is hereby established to identify and evaluate the applicability of safety technologies with a significant potential to reduce accidents and incidents as they pertain to the existing global helicopter fleet and their potential application to emerging rotorcraft and other vertical flight aircraft. The working group will promote the integration of promising new safety technologies and foster harmonization of international safety efforts. The VAST Technology Working Group will work closely with other VAST Working Groups to ensure global consistency in the application of safety technologies.

The working group may be called upon to produce a variety of products in support of VAST objectives. Working group products may include such items as correspondence, studies, reports, industry guides and training materials. The working group is an established body of the VAST. As such, any and all products developed by the working group shall be approved by the VAST prior to distribution.

Membership:

The VAST Technology working group is staffed by members of the regional safety teams, safety authorities (as defined in the VAST Charter), or other global VTOL safety stakeholders (organizations including councils, committees; industry original equipment manufacturers, safety organizations, training providers, and others as appropriate). It will be managed by two co-chairs, normally one from the industry stakeholders and one from the aviation authorities. Co-chairs are chosen by a majority of the voting members. There are no limits to the number of voting members in this working group except that only one (1) representative from any company or organization may be a voting member of an individual working group. The two co-chairs will be voting members. The working group may bring in other non-voting experts to advise on technical and other issues. Co-chairs of working groups are automatically considered non-voting advisors to all other working groups.