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St. Louis Helicopter Deploys Sikorsky S-58 for Heavy Lifting Job

TJC @ 2007 NBAA Schedulers & Dispatchers Conference

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Airola Caribbean Helicopters Ferries its Bell 222 for Overseas Duty



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ST. LOUIS HELICOPTER PERFORMS HEAVY LIFTING IN TEXAS

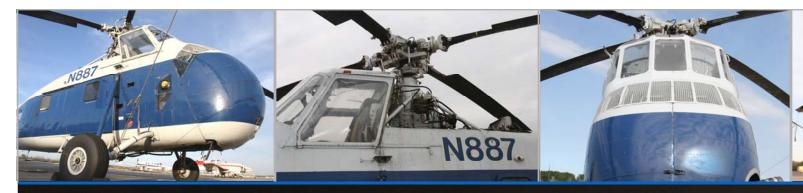
Pictured (L-R) are Lonnie Cook-Mechanic, Jim Robinson-Pilot, and Bob Marshall-Signalman, in front of a Sikorsky S-58 that they operate for St. Louis Helicopter, as they returned from their heavy lifting assignment. The crew was tasked with coordinating the lift of air conditioner units onto the rooftop of an Academy Sports store in Tomball, Texas. With its 3,500-pound lift capacity, the Sikorsky S-58 was able to perform 17 lifts in 40 minutes.

TJC was the base camp for this rotorcraft from February 28—March 14 as it awaited on assignments in the Greater Houston, Texas area. It attracted quite a crowd on a daily basis as students from Silver State Helicopters and the general public clamored around it to take photos.

Apparently the S-58 is quite a show-stopper wherever it goes as it performs amazing feats of lifting in minutes. What is more amazing is this rotorcraft is almost 50 years old and is still a workhorse to this day. From retrieving the NASA space capsule and astronauts, to serving in the Vietnam War, the S-58 has had a commendable aviation career. Today, the S-58 is used commercially to lift heavy construction equipment as well as perform in TV movies like Riptide, Screaming Mimi, Twister, Steel, and more

recently in a reality show, Extreme Make-Over Home Edition.





ST. LOUIS HELICOPTER—COMPANY PROFILE:

Since its inception in 1970 as St. Louis Helicopter Airways, Inc., the company had expanded from a single helicopter charter service to a multi-role helicopter operation. In 2002, the business was renamed St. Louis Helicopter after a group of investors bought out the company and re-focused exclusively on the heavy lift construction business. Today, it is a multi-faceted company, offering helicopter charter, flight instruction, aerial tours, power line/pipeline inspection, helicopter sales and maintenance, aircraft recovery, stringing cables and lines, major overhauls, helicopter flight and training financing, aerial photography, and electronic news gathering. Its corporate headquarters is located in their 12,000 square foot office/hangar facility at Spirit of St. Louis Airport (KSUS) in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Their current fleet consists of four types of helicopters:

Robinson R44 (700 lb lift capacity) Sikorsky S58 (3,500 lb lift capacity) Sikorsky S58T (4,500 lb lift capacity) Sikorsky S61 (8,500 lb lift capacity)

The company can be contacted at (800) 325-4046 for lift capacity greater than 8,500 lbs.

ST. LOUIS HELICOPTER

ST. LOUIS HELICOPTER INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITIES:

If it can be lifted by helicopter, then St. Louis Helicopter can do the job. For about the same cost of a crane, their helicopter can lift just about anything in a fraction of the time. And unlike a crane, their helicopters can place items in hard to reach places and do not need to be re-positioned between lifts. They provide services to the building industry by lifting HVAC, structural steel, roofing and decking, concrete structures, signage, and land-scaping materials. They provide services to the power and communications industry by installing antennas and microwave towers and stringing cables. They also provide forestry services for fire suppression and logging.







S-58 HELICOPTER SPECIFICATION:

Sikorsky developed the 34 Choctaw (also known as the Sikorsky S-58) for the US Navy in 1954 in response to its requirement for a midsize helo for anti-submarine warfare. The S-58 has a nose-mounted engine and a raised flightdeck located above a box-like fuselage. It has a downward-sloping tail section with a three-wheel undercarriage. It is rated at 1275 HP on a single Wright Cyclone R-1820-84 piston engine with a 9-cylinder air cool radial. It features a four-blade main rotor and four-blade portside tail rotor, with the main rotor diameter of 56 ft. and the length with the rotors turning is 56 ft. 8 in. Its height is 15 ft. 11 in. It has a range of 260 nm and a maximum speed of 120 kts. In addition to civilian use, the S-58s were used by the US Coast from 1959 to 1962. Then it was deployed in Vietnam by the US Army and Marines for missions ranging from combat assault to aeromedical evacuation and general cargo transport. The total number built (including military) is 1,821.

(reference sources: www.prop-liners.com, Janes Aircraft Recognition Guide, http://en.wikipedia.org, www.airliners.net)



ST. LOUIS HELICOPTER PROMOTIONAL CAPABILITIES:

St. Louis Helicopter also specializes in special stunts to generate valuable publicity for its customers. Their helicopters have been utilized on movie sets to create special effects. They can transport/drop automobiles, or virtually any item onto a target for a company's product or service promotion. And, like they said in their promotional CD, "if it's safe and you can dream it, we can make it happen." So, for whatever helicopter services that you may need, please check out their website at: www.stlouishelicopter.com.

