



## Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee

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IHOPS-19-01

**Date:** March 19, 2019  
**To:** Chair, National Interagency Aviation Committee  
**From:** Chair, Interagency Helicopter Operations Subcommittee  
**Subject:** Re-Memo 18-09

### BACKGROUND:

The IHOPs subcommittee response to Memorandum 18-09 regarding re-typing aircraft.

Current ICS Helicopter definitions found in the Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide (IHOG) are not standard and do not reflect accurate minimum specifications for current and next generation light, medium and heavy helicopters, and in some situations the true capability of aircraft currently on contract with the agencies. (See attached briefing paper.)

### RECOMMENDATION:

IHOPs recommends no action at this time in regards to re-typing of aircraft, with exception of adopting as an interagency standard, the new definition for each type helicopter as defined below.

**Light Helicopter:** *A helicopter with a certified internal gross weight of 7,000 pounds or less. Under the ICS helicopter typing system, a light helicopter is a Type 3 helicopter and has 9 or less passenger seats.*

**Medium Helicopter:** *A helicopter with a certified internal gross weight of 7,001 to 14,000 pounds. Under the ICS helicopter typing system, a medium helicopter is a Type 2 helicopter and has 9 or less passenger seats (unless restricted category).*

**Heavy Helicopter:** *A helicopter with a certified internal gross weight of 14,001 pounds or greater. Under the ICS helicopter typing system, a heavy helicopter is a Type 1 helicopter and has 10 + passenger seats (unless restricted category).*

Documents affected by this change: Red book, Mobilization Guide, IHOG, IRPG, Aircraft Identification Guide, Areal Supervision Guide, S-271, S-270, S-372, S-378

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