



4 CORPORATE WAY
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59808

PHONE: 406-544-0402
FAX: 406-728-2943
HANGAR: 406-721-0402

ADVANCED TRAINING ACADEMY

ROTORCRAFT EXTERNAL LOAD / VTR LONG LINE COURSE:

10 Hrs. Ground Instruction
15 Hrs. Flight Instruction

This course is designed to train companies, state agencies, federal agencies, militaries and individual pilots in preparation to entering the natural resource arena to operate safely, efficiently, and proficiently with respect to Vertical reference and the external load environment. The Vertical Reference mission is one that allows a load to be delivered/received externally to an area that would not be accessible by other means. It allows the pilot a greater margin of control with more accuracy while keeping the helicopter above all



obstacles, often times allowing the aircraft to remain into the wind. The mission has become a tool in wildland fire fighting, forestry, construction, resource exploration, logging, seismic and many other arenas to complete or accomplish a job more effectively, safely, and efficiently. This course will provide instruction to the commercially rated helicopter pilot with the required basic knowledge through a combination of ground instruction and flight instruction. Ground Instruction will consist of training in the preflight of aircraft and equipment (lines, remote hook, swivel, nets, etc.), seating position, load description, delivery area, mission parameters (This part of the course is catered to the client's needs, i.e.; USFS fire fighting missions including fire



behavior and basic fire tactics, seismic, construction, search and rescue, production utility, etc.) performance planning, site picture (scan, depth perception, situational awareness, and focus), and common hazards. Our experienced skilled instructors will use power point presentations, video, printed materials, lecture, and hands-on equipment throughout the ground academics portion. Flight instruction will begin with a 100 foot long line. The student will be trained on centering load, side to side control, 360 degree swing control and progress to normal

takeoff and landings to an open field advancing to delivery of load to a road. After achieving proficiency with the 100' long line, the student will transition to a 150' long line. Training will continue with 150' long line to include contour flying, delivery to confined areas, ridgelines, and pinnacles. The final stage of flight training concludes with the student completing a slalom course with the 150' long line. Fire fighting tactics to include water bucket operations (long line or "belly hook") can also be included at the customers' request.

The completion standards for this course are the same as the standards by the USFS for a pilot to be eligible for a USFS Helicopter Vertical Reference card.