



Mark Huetter, Assistant Chief of Training

G4S Government Solutions

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00:00:09,340 --> 00:00:12,190

Launching rockets at a spaceport can be dangerous business requiring . . .

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00:00:12,190 --> 00:00:14,710

. . . people to perform activities around caustic propellants . . .

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00:00:14,710 --> 00:00:17,930

. . . and working at high levels on launch towers.

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00:00:17,930 --> 00:00:22,380

With NASA's workforce making safety their paramount priority, mishaps are a rare occurrence.

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00:00:22,380 --> 00:00:27,160

If an accident occurs, a quick response by Kennedy Space Center Fire Rescue personnel

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00:00:27,160 --> 00:00:31,550

can significantly increase an injured person's chances of recovery.

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00:00:31,550 --> 00:00:35,480

To add to its already broad skill base, the spaceport's Fire Rescue department . . .

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00:00:35,480 --> 00:00:39,390

. . . recently collaborated with helicopter pilots in NASA Aircraft Operations. Together

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00:00:39,390 --> 00:00:44,980

they developed procedures for taking injured patients to hospitals as quickly as possible.

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00:00:44,980 --> 00:00:48,390

Much of the recent training took place at Kennedy in a parking lot near the Vehicle

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00:00:48,390 --> 00:00:49,820
Assembly Building.

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00:00:49,820 --> 00:00:54,610
The exercise was developed, in part, by Bill Martin, a veteran pilot who has flown more

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00:00:54,610 --> 00:00:56,930
than 1,100 helicopter rescue missions.

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00:00:56,930 --> 00:01:01,610
"There is always a risk of an accident and there's always a possibility that you may

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00:01:01,610 --> 00:01:08,440
have to utilize our helicopters and our firefighters here to bring patients to a higher level of

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00:01:08,440 --> 00:01:09,270
care."

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00:01:09,270 --> 00:01:13,649
In the recent training activity, a volunteer served in the role of an "injured" person.

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00:01:13,649 --> 00:01:17,399
Paramedics removed him from a vehicle and placed him on a stretcher.

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00:01:17,399 --> 00:01:21,479
At the same time, lieutenants with Kennedy Fire Rescue directed a NASA helicopter into

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00:01:21,479 --> 00:01:22,640
the landing zone.

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00:01:22,640 --> 00:01:26,729
The medical staff quickly moved the stretcher to the waiting helicopter, secured the stretcher

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00:01:26,729 --> 00:01:31,729

in place and closed the door in readiness for flight to the nearest hospital. Medical

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00:01:31,729 --> 00:01:34,979

experts point out that after an accident, the first 60 minutes are crucial.

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00:01:34,979 --> 00:01:41,979

"In an emergency situation, the 'golden hour,' as it's referred to, is that hour that a critical

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00:01:42,099 --> 00:01:48,640

care patient needs to be extricated and transported to a local trauma center to get the highest

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00:01:48,640 --> 00:01:53,539

level of care and have the best result for recovery or survival."

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00:01:53,539 --> 00:01:58,039

NASA Fire Rescue assistant chief of training, Mark Huetter, says the recent activity was

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00:01:58,039 --> 00:01:59,599

crucial for everyone involved.

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00:01:59,599 --> 00:02:03,030

"This training is very important for not only for the Fire personnel, but the Aircraft Operations

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00:02:03,030 --> 00:02:04,789

personnel."

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00:02:04,789 --> 00:02:09,009

The Florida spaceport covers a vast expanse on Merritt Island, making the availability

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00:02:09,009 --> 00:02:11,250
of helicopters a valuable asset.

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00:02:11,250 --> 00:02:17,280
"Kennedy Space Center is a very large area
at 144,000 acres. It's relatively difficult

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00:02:17,280 --> 00:02:22,379
to get to all the different areas of the center.
So having resources available, using this

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00:02:22,379 --> 00:02:27,230
helicopter, allows us to get to these areas
and transport people who need to go to a higher

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00:02:27,230 --> 00:02:30,049
care facility quickly."

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00:02:30,049 --> 00:02:34,209
Ultimately, this enhanced capability means
that while many areas of the space center

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00:02:34,209 --> 00:02:38,090
are remote, a high level of medical care is
still close by.

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00:02:38,090 --> 00:02:43,459
"It's important for Kennedy Space Center employees
as well as visitors to know that we have the

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00:02:43,459 --> 00:02:49,310
capability of providing transportation to
a high level of care, utilizing our aircraft

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00:02:49,310 --> 00:02:51,890
operations here at Kennedy Space Center."

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00:02:51,890 --> 00:02:55,259
"The training program that was created by
NASA Aircraft Operations . . ."

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00:02:55,259 --> 00:03:01,330

" . . . as well as NASA Fire Rescue was to create a higher safety culture . . ."

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00:03:01,330 --> 00:03:07,359

". . .in allowing the center workers for the government and contractors, including the

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00:03:07,359 --> 00:03:10,090

visitors that come here throughout the day."