



# Helicopter Sling Loading & Helicopter Internal Air Transport (HSL & HIAT Certification Programs)

## What It Is:

**Helicopter Sling Loading (HSL)**...Slings attach the cargo to the helicopter for short-range transport. **Helicopter Internal Air Transport (HIAT)**...“Internal” means HIAT is used for passengers and for any load — like food and ammunition — that travels inside the helicopter.

## Why It's Needed:

Can the equipment being transported withstand the stresses of the flight environment, both inside and outside the helicopter? HSL and HIAT certifications give us the answer.

**HSL Certification:** Natick is the Department of Defense agency for HSL certification. We run:

- engineering evaluations;
- strength tests;
- rigging tests;
- flight tests.

**Helicopter IAT Certification:** Natick is the Army agency for HIAT certification. We run:

- engineering evaluations;
- strength tests;
- loading tests.

## Benefits:

**Soldier Safety**...Certification ensures that the crews of the helicopters are never put at risk.

**Approved Transport**...Deploying certified equipment by HSL lets us reach areas that wouldn't be accessible by ground transportation.

## Point of Contact:

**Airdrop/Aerial Delivery Liaison**

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