

BEYOND THE CALL

**1. If a HAZMAT situation is involved, notify the Air Evac dispatcher with specifics when requesting the aircraft.**

NOTE: The pilot needs HAZMAT information for flight planning. The helicopter might not be able to land near the scene depending on the nature of the HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.

**2. Setup LZ according to the following criteria:**

**SIZE**

- A. 100 feet x 100 feet day or night.
- B. Larger LZ is required if multiple helicopters are called.

**LOCATION**

- A. Lay out the LZ 100 to 200 feet downwind of the patient care area to prevent loose debris, dirt or gravel from blowing into the patient care area.
- B. If the LZ is on one side of a two-way road, both lanes of traffic should be stopped.

NOTE: Strong downwash can cause debris to blow onto both lanes of traffic.

**OBSTRUCTIONS**

- A. Clear of wires, trees, poles, buildings, vehicles, stumps, bushes, rocks, etc.

NOTE: Loose debris can blow up into the rotor system and cripple the aircraft.

- B. At least 200 feet from bystanders, livestock, cars, motorcycles, etc.

**SURFACE CONDITION**

- A. As level as possible. It should not exceed 5° slope.
- B. Select best possible surface available.
- C. The best LZ surfaces are in order as follows:
  - 1. Concrete      3. Sod or grass
  - 2. Black top    4. Dirt or brush
- D. Moisten the LZ if dirt surface is used

NOTE: Dirt or brush surfaces should be used only when more suitable sites are not available. If the dirt LZ is not moistened, the blowing dust can cause a BROWN OUT situation. This severely restricts visibility during landing and takeoff.

**NIGHT LZ SETUP**

Mark the LZ with five lights, (one at each corner of the LZ and one to indicate wind direction on the upwind side). DO NOT USE ROAD FLARES!

**SEE REVERSE**

**3. Designate a person on the ground to establish radio contact with the pilot to relay the following information:**

- A. Location of the LZ.
- B. All obstacles and hazards within 1/8 mile of LZ: such as power lines, trees, light poles, etc.
- C. Type of surface and condition.
- D. Wind direction.
- E. If possible, give the pilot any patient information.
- F. Notify the pilot immediately if anything seems unusual or unsafe.

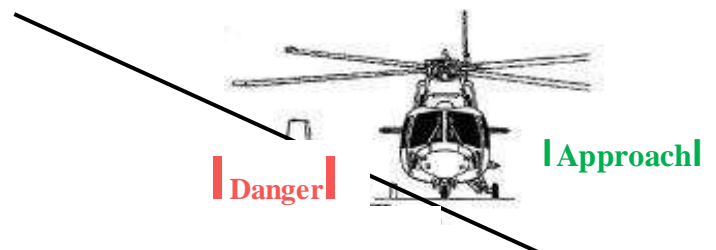
NOTE: Preferred channels are: MARCS - 8TAC92D or 8TAC94D; VHF - VFIRE21; UHF - UTAC41D

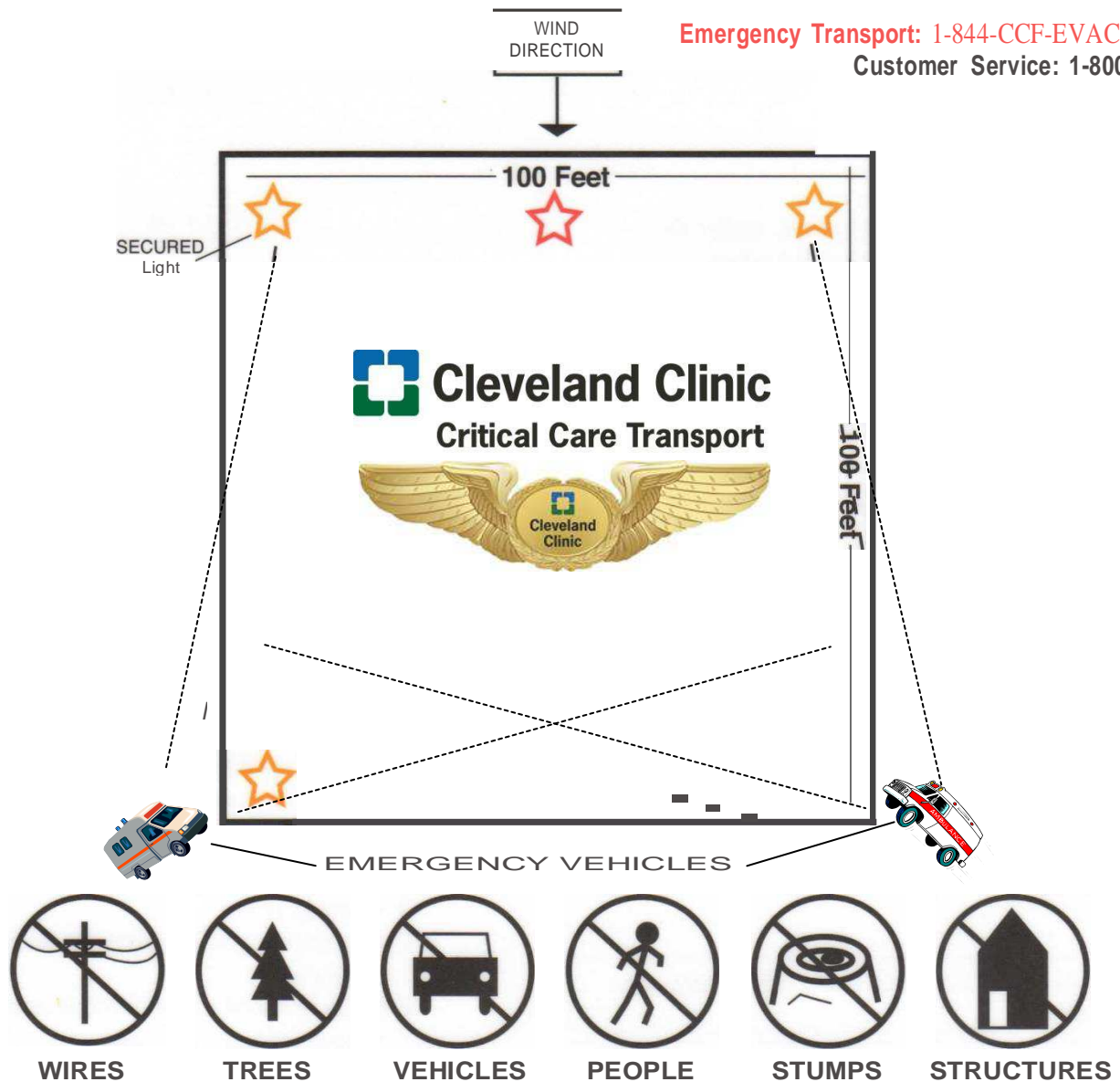
**General Helicopter Safety Rules**

- Wait for a signal from the pilot or crew before approaching within 50 feet of the helicopter rotors.
- Always approach & depart helicopter from the sides (3 or 9 o'clock), never around the tail rotor.



- Never rush
- If the helicopter is on a sloped surface, approach from the downhill side, never from the uphill side.





### Helicopter Landing

• Maintain radio contact with the pilot until the aircraft has landed. The pilot will circle before landing to determine the safest approach and departure paths, note emergency landing areas and verify LZ information with the ground contact.

• Make sure that all vehicles and people are away from the LZ. If this security is broken at any time during the approach and landing, notify the pilot immediately.

• It is not necessary to assist the Air Medical Personnel in unloading medical equipment.

### Patient Loading

• The Air Medical Personnel will designate ground assistants to help load the patient into the aircraft. Only these assistants should approach the aircraft.

• Before loading patients, the Air Medical Personnel must explain the hazards of approaching the helicopter to the ground assistants. For their safety, ground assistants should follow these instructions carefully.

• Once the patients are loaded onto the aircraft, ground personnel should move back from the aircraft and LZ.

• Only Air Medical Personnel are authorized to close the aircraft doors.

### Departure

• Maintain radio contact with the pilot as the helicopter lifts and following departure. Watch for anything that appears unusual with the aircraft or LZ - dripping fluids from the body of the helicopter, anything hanging from the aircraft, anything in the pilot's path. Report anything unusual to the pilot immediately.

• Keep the LZ clear and maintain radio contact for at least 2 minutes after departure in case the helicopter needs to return for some reason.

### General Helicopter Safety Rules

- Always approach and depart the helicopter from the sides (3 and 9 o'clock), never walk around the tail rotor.
- No smoking or open flames within 100 feet of the aircraft.
- No hats or other loose articles near the aircraft.
- No ground vehicles within 100 feet of the aircraft.
- Notify the pilot immediately if anything seems unusual or unsafe.