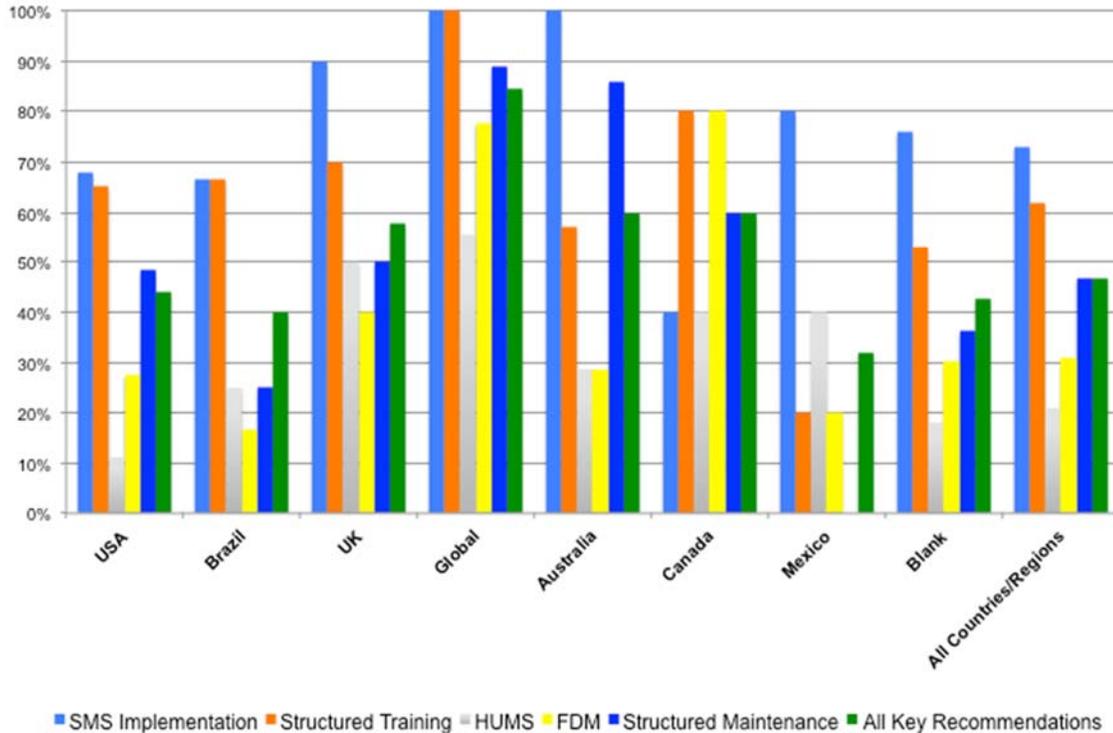


Implementation of IHST-Recommended Safety Initiatives Survey Results

Over this past year, the IHST has promoted a survey to judge awareness and use of its products. (<http://ihst.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2593>) One of the goals of the survey was to promote more awareness of the IHST’s work. Another goal was to learn about the use and impact of the IHST’s products. Over time, the IHST hopes to correlate the survey results with accident data to see if the products are on target toward the IHST’s vision of zero accidents.

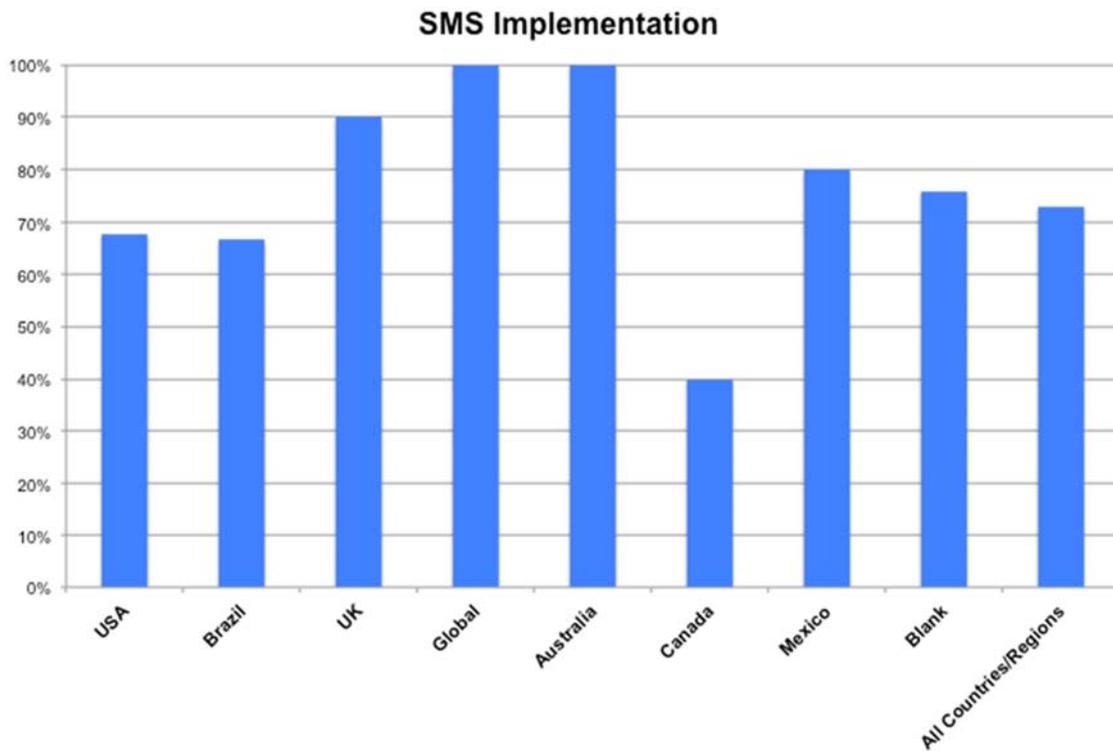
There have now been 353 responses to the survey from 53 different countries. The responses by country generally fall in line with the number of helicopters in those countries. The figure below shows some of the results from the countries with the most responses – in this case the percentages of respondents who have implemented the IHST’s top recommendations. Where you see “Global” you might substitute “international operators who support the oil & gas industry.” “Blank” reflects the unfortunate fact that 83 respondents did not state their country or region. The “All Countries/Regions” category shows the averages for all 353 respondents.



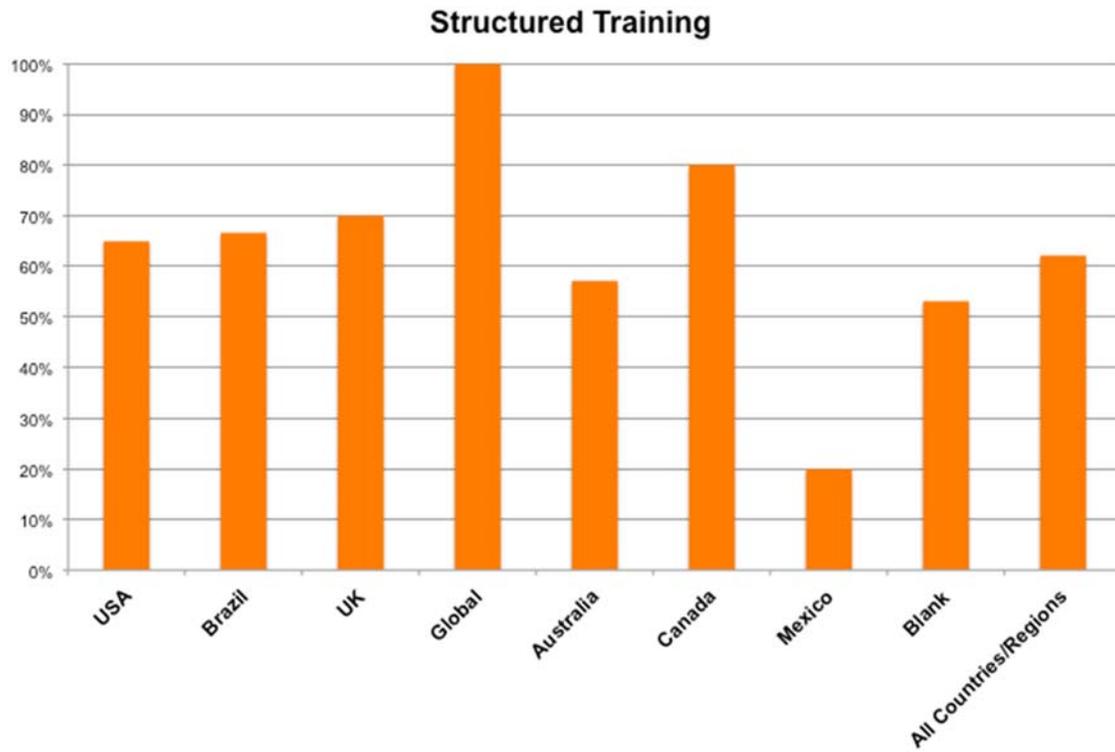
We must admit that 353 respondents is a small sample for the more than 35,000 civil helicopters in the world. We do not propose that these results are a

representative sample. These results may in fact represent the best operators in the civil helicopter industry who were willing to state their positions with regard to the IHST's work. Nevertheless, these results do give indications of which of the IHST's top safety recommendations are gaining the broadest acceptance. We must of course take into account that the IHST's top safety recommendations may be getting implemented for reasons other than the IHST itself.

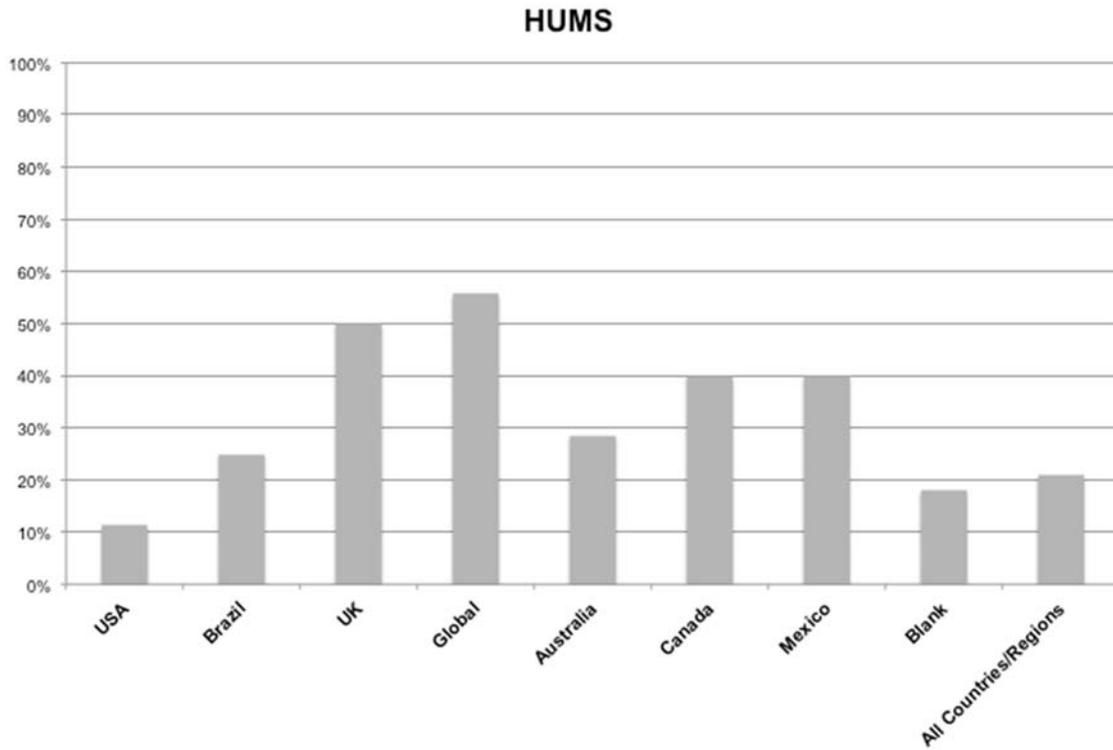
SMS Toolkit: For example, SMS implementation, which has the highest overall implementation rate of all the IHST's top recommendations, is generally highest in countries where SMS has been mandated the longest; e.g., UK and the global operators supporting the oil & gas industry.



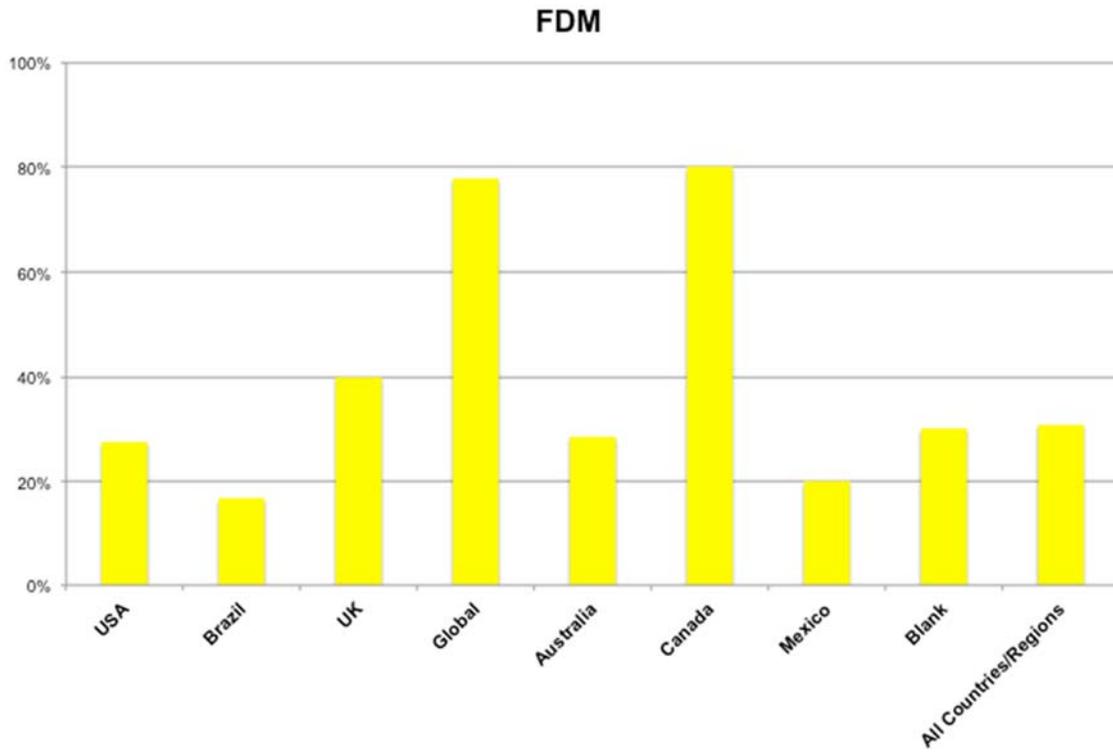
Training Toolkit: Similarly, structured programs for initial and recurrent training, often competence based, are more prevalent amongst the global operators supporting the oil & gas industry.



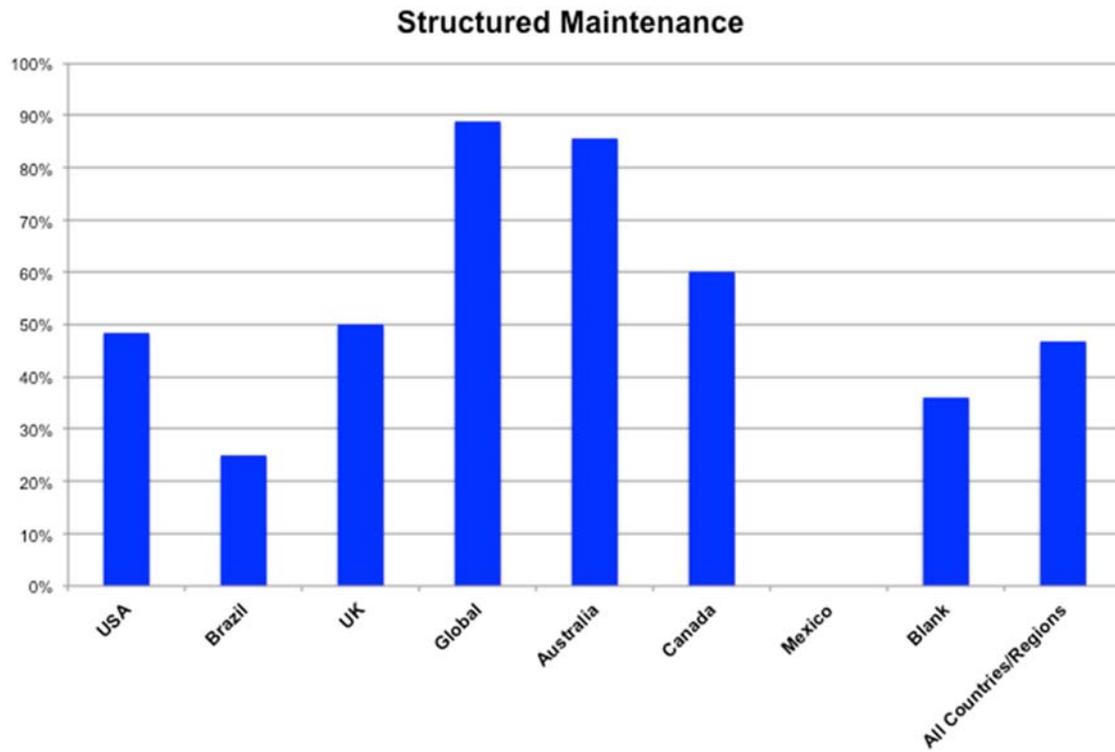
Health and Usage Monitoring System Toolkit: HUMS implementation is relatively low everywhere. The highest levels of HUMS implementation were reported in the UK and “Global” where the oil & gas industry sponsored HUMS development in the late 90s and many oil & gas companies have required it for more than 10 years.



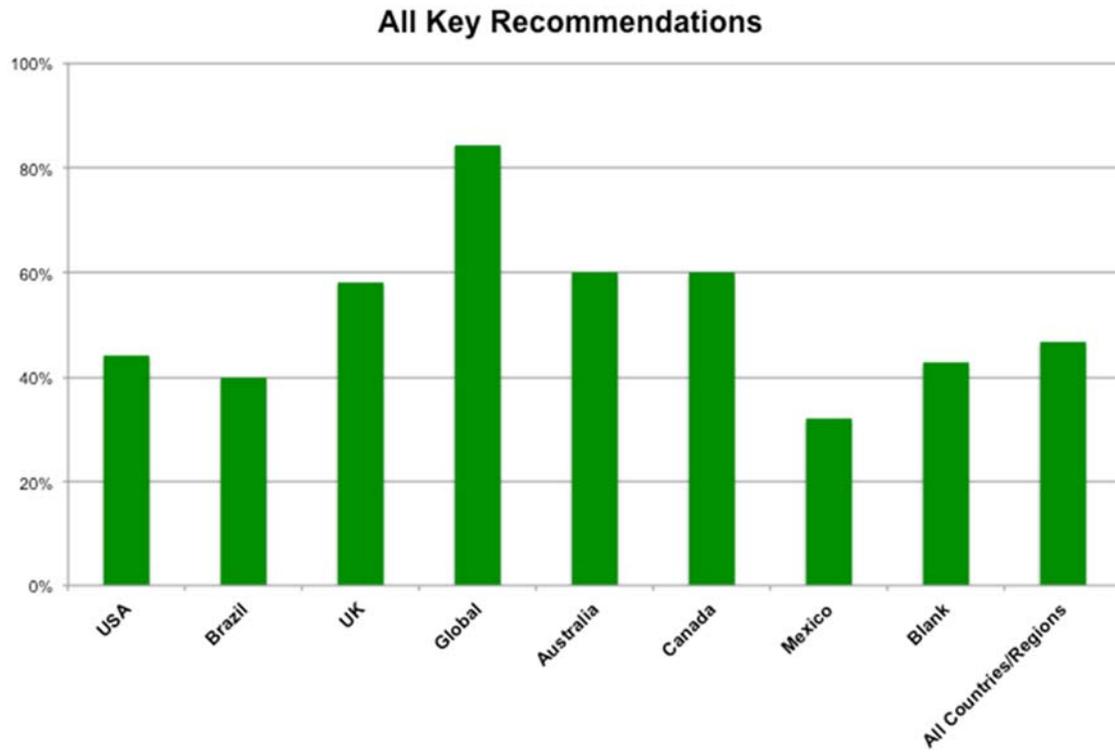
Flight Data Monitoring Toolkit: The highest use of FDM was reported by the “Global” operators and in Canada, where the advocacy of Paul Spring, President of Phoenix Heli-Flight, may have influenced smaller commercial operators to implement FDM.



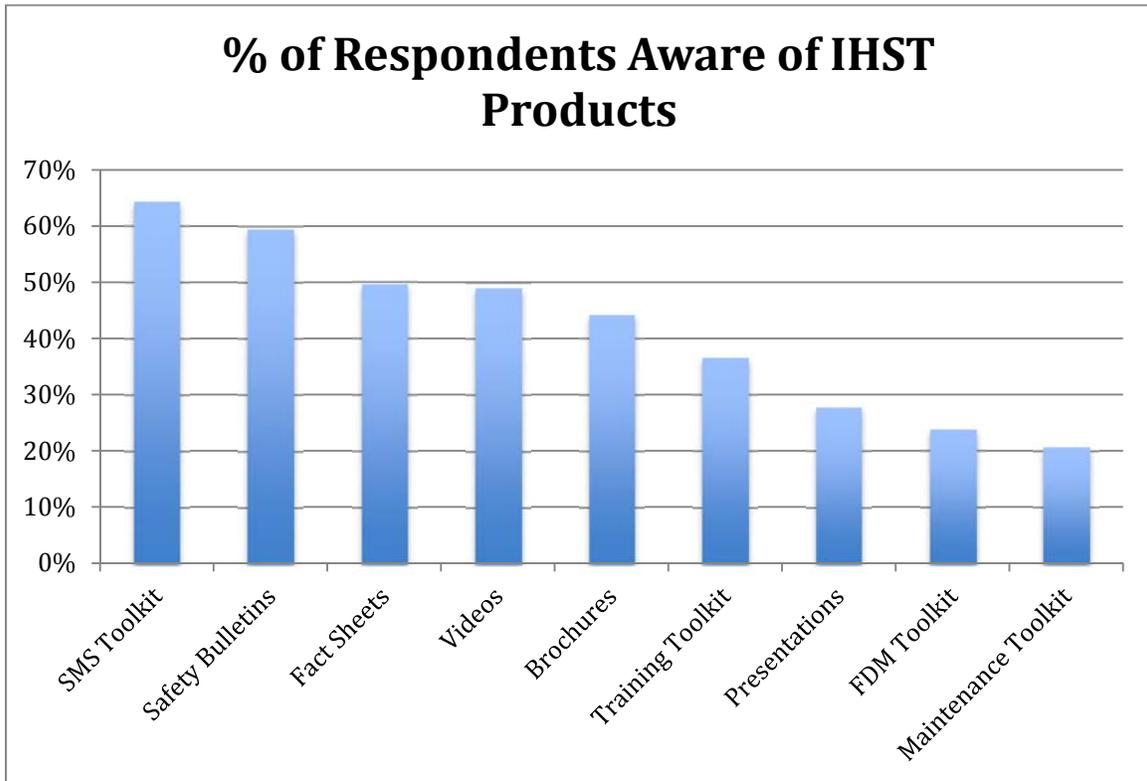
Maintenance Toolkit: The “Global” operators also reported the highest use of structured maintenance programs that comply with manufacturers’ recommended practices.



All Recommended Initiatives: Overall, the “Global” operators reported the highest implementation of IHST recommendations and Mexico the lowest.



IHST Products: To evaluate how much impact the IHST’s products (toolkits, brochures, videos, etc.) may have had on these results, the survey asked whether respondents have used or at least seen those products. As shown in the figure below, the IHST’s most popular products were the SMS toolkits, which had been read or used by 64% of those who responded. In comparison, 67.8% of respondents reported having implemented an SMS in their operations.



In every case, the implementation of the IHST’s top recommendations was slightly higher than the use of the corresponding toolkits. Thus, as noted earlier, it is clear that other factors are encouraging operators to implement SMS, structured training, FDM, HUMS and structured maintenance programs.

Whatever the causes for implementing these helicopter safety improvements, the survey results are encouraging, particularly amongst the global operators who support the oil & gas industry.