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# Long Lining Mixed Loads

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CAGC SAFETY ALERT

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**Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors**

1045, 1015 - 4th Street SW

Calgary, Alberta

T2R 1J4

Phone: 403 265 0045

Fax: 403 265 0025

E-mail: [info@cagc.ca](mailto:info@cagc.ca)

## Safety Alert

08-01

The following incident has been recently reported to the CAGC.

### ***General Details***

On the day of the incident, a helicopter pilot flying a Bell 212 Helicopter was long lining a mixed load consisting of 3 barrels of Jet-b aviation fuel and 2 Heli-bags each containing 10 super batteries. A short time after takeoff the pilot noticed that the bags were under quite a bit of turbulence, at this point one barrel became dislodged from the sling and fell from approximately 300 meters free falling to the ground. The pilot immediately turned the aircraft to return to staging. After making the turn a second barrel became dislodged with it too falling to the ground. Both barrels landed in an open pasture with approximately 15 inches of snow. Both barrels were destroyed on impact spilling 410 litres of aviation fuel into the snow. Although both barrels and bags fly well by themselves it is felt at this time that the turbulence created by the mixed load was enough to cause the bags to spin more than usual, the bags then impacted the slings and dislodged the hook from each barrel.

### ***Recommendations***

- At no time will mixed loads be flown on a long line;
- Although the barrel slings were inspected following the incident and found to be fine, Helicopter engineers should routinely inspect the slings to ensure the hooks are in good shape;
- Whenever possible a cargo net should be used instead of barrel slings;
- At no time should Flight paths be over populated areas.