Hoisting Procedures/Commands

Helicopter hoisting is conducted in a noise-filled environment. All personnel must know the commands, procedures, and appropriate hand and arm signals.

- SO: ready for cargo door
  - ✓ Pilot: less than 55 knots, clear for cargo door (or negative SO standby)
- SO: ready to move to skid
  - ✓ Pilot: less than 30 knots, clear to move to skid (or negative SO standby)
- SO: on the skid ready to hoist
  - ✓ Pilot: clear to hoist (or negative SO standby)
- SO: Advise when you lose sight of target.
- SO: (Continually verbalize actions.) RS at the cabin door, RS at skid, Orca strap disconnected. RS on the way out (down) (Use consistent standard language. Say it the same way every time.)
- PIC: Losing sight of target.
- SO: Counts down to target. 40,30,20,10,5,4,3,2,1. Hold hover. (The spacing of the numbers shall be even and consistent so the pilot can gauge the distance to the target that he can't see.)
- SO: RS on the ground in 3, 2, 1.
- SO: RS on the ground
- SO: RS disconnecting
- SO: RS is disconnected hooks coming in.
- SO: hook is half-way in.
- SO: hook is 15ft below the skid you are clear for easy forward.
- SO: hook is stowed, cargo door is closed, cabin secure.
- SO: clear for forward flight

  - ✓ Pilot: On the go

S/O stands for System Operator. AKA Hoist Operator.