
AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

For the reasons set out in the background section, the CASA delegate whose signature appears below issues the following Airworthiness Directive (AD) under subregulation 39.001(1) of CASR 1998. The AD requires that the action set out in the requirement section (being action that the delegate considers necessary to correct the unsafe condition) be taken in relation to the aircraft or aeronautical product mentioned in the applicability section: (a) in the circumstances mentioned in the requirement section; and (b) in accordance with the instructions set out in the requirement section; and (c) at the time mentioned in the compliance section.

Eurocopter AS 355 (Twin Ecureuil) Series Helicopters**AD/AS 355/89 Tail Rotor Drive Shaft - Forward Shaft Section 4/2006**

Applicability: Eurocopter AS 355 E, F, F1, F2 and N helicopters fitted with tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft section, part number 355A 34-1090-00 with serial numbers from M858 to M873 inclusive.

This AD does not apply to helicopters delivered after 1 January 2005.

Requirement:

1. Replace the drive shaft with a drive shaft not listed by serial number in this AD in accordance with Paragraph 2.B of Eurocopter Alert Service Bulletin No. 01.00.51.
2. Do not install drive shaft listed by serial number in this AD, held as spares.

Note: DGAC AD F-2005-082, EASA approval number 2005-4319 dated 18 May 2005 refers.

Compliance:

1. For drive shafts that have accumulated less than 2,400 flying hours, at the latest at 2,500 hours or by 30 June 2006, whichever occurs first.

For drive shafts that have accumulated more than 2,400 flying hours, at the latest within 100 hours from the effective date of this AD or 30 June 2006, whichever occurs first.

2. From the effective date of this AD.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 13 April 2006.

Background: The AD is issued following the discovery of non-conformity on the flange of the drive shaft. The non-conformity may significantly reduce the strength and the service life of the component.



Jayaprakashan Ambali
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

21 February 2006