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 39.1 (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 350 (Ecureuil) Series Helicopters

AD/ECUREUIL/97 Pilot's Cyclic Stick Friction Washers 6/2004 DM

Applicability: Model EC 130 B4 helicopters, pre Mod 073531 and fitted with:

- thrust washer part number C671A1006201, of the pilot's cyclic stick friction device,
- pilot's cyclic sticks, part number 350A27-5215-00.

Requirement:

1. Flights without friction applied to the pilot's cyclic stick are prohibited.
2. Remove the pilot's cyclic stick and replace the thrust washers in accordance with paragraph 2 of Eurocopter EC 130 Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. 67A005.
3. Replace the stock of washers and modify pilot's cyclic sticks, held as spares, in accordance with paragraph 2.B.5 of ASB No. 67A005.

Note: DGAC AD F-2004-058 refers.

Compliance:

1. During each flight after 5 May 2004 until Requirement 2 is accomplished.
2. Within 550 flight hours or 6 months after 5 May 2004, whichever occurs first.
3. Before installation on a helicopter.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 5 May 2004.

Background: A report was received of sudden restriction of cyclic stick travel on an EC 120 B helicopter during a flight when the cyclic stick was moved back to neutral.

David Villiers
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

29 April 2004

The above AD is notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on 5 May 2004.