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 CAR 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/75 Switching Unit 5/2002

Applicability: Eurocopter AS 350 B3 helicopters incorporating a switching unit part number (P/N) 200192 and delivered prior to 15 October 2001.

Requirement:

1. Carry out a once only inspection for tightness of the wire harness passing through the transmission deck above the switching unit and for the presence of water in the switching unit in accordance with Eurocopter Alert Service Bulletin Number 76.00.16.P5.

2. The requirements of this Directive are to be entered on the aircraft maintenance release as maintenance required and a copy of this Directive is to be attached to the Aircraft Log Book.

Compliance with Requirement 1 of this Directive constitutes terminating action for this Directive, and Requirement 2 can be cancelled when Requirement 1 has been accomplished.

Note: DGAC Airworthiness Directive 2001-548-084 refers.

Compliance: Prior to flight in icing conditions or prior to 100 hours time in service from the effective date of this Directive, whichever occurs first.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 16 May 2002.

Background: This Directive has been issued to address reports of water entering the switching unit and freezing. In the event of water in the switching unit freezing, the twist grip may jam and prevent manual engine governing in the event of the automatic engine governing system failing.

Eugene Paul Holzapfel
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

3 April 2002

The above AD is notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on 24 April 2002.