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/103 Camera System Installation - 2 10/2004

Applicability: Model AS 350 helicopters that have been modified in accordance with Mann Aviation Group (Engineering) Ltd (MAG(E)) modification 350-1521, 350-1680, or 350-1707; Installation of Camera Platform.

Requirement:

1. Inspect the camera platform hold down hook to determine the standard of hook installed, in accordance with paragraph 2 of MAG(E) Service Bulletin SB-A25-002 Issue 1, dated 20 May 2004, or later EASA approved revision. If a part number 350-1521-109 hook is found to be installed, replace the -109 hook with a part number 350-1521-139 hook in accordance with SB-A25-002 Issue 1, or later EASA approved revision.

2. Modify the Mounting Arm in accordance with SB-A25-002 Issue 1, or later EASA approved revision.

Note: UK CAA AD G-2004-0019 refers.

Compliance: Within 3 months after 30 September 2004.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 30 September 2004.

Background: The manufacturer has received reports of failures of an old standard of the camera platform hold down hook. Failure of the hook could result in inadequate retention of the platform and camera, which could become a hazard to the helicopter.

David Villiers
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

18 August 2004

The above AD is notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on 8 September 2004.