AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

On the effective date specified below, and for the reasons set out in the background section, the CASA delegate whose signature appears below revokes Airworthiness Directive (AD) AD/ECUREUIL/94 and issues the following 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 350 (Ecureuil) Series Helicopters

AD/ECUREUIL/94 Hoist Hooks 9/2006 Amdt 1

Applicability: Model AS 350B, BA, B1, B2, B3, BB, and D helicopters equipped with

Goodrich (Lucas-Air Equipment) hoists, part numbers:

76300-xxx, 76340-xxx, 76360-xxx, 76360-xxx-xx, 76363-xxx, 76365-xxx, 76368-xxx, 76370-xxx, 76375-xxx, and 76378-xxx, and

fitted with hooks part numbers:

704160, 708223, 708931, 709866, and 710177.

Note: The hooks concerned are not fitted with a tongue locking system.

Requirement:

1. Accomplish the operational procedure, and the restriction prohibiting the use of straps, in accordance with the instructions specified in paragraph 2.A. of Eurocopter Alert Service Bulletin No. 01.00.54.

2. Accomplish the instructions specified in paragraph 2.B. of Eurocopter Alert Service Bulletin No. 01.00.54.

Note: EASA AD 2006-0098 refers.

Compliance:

1. Before each hoisting operation.

2. Within 2 months after 7 April 2004.

The compliance times remain unchanged by this issue.

This Amendment becomes effective on 31 August 2006.

Background: This Directive was prompted by a case of incorrect positioning of the strap on the hoist hook during a hoisting mission, which led to distortion of the tongue and resulted in the release of the stretcher containing an injured person.

Eurocopter AS 350 (Ecureuil) Series Helicopters

AD/ECUREUIL/94 Amdt 1 (continued)

Amendment 1 is issued in response to a new EASA AD, which converts the Requirement document to an Alert Service Bulletin with the same reference number, and no change to the technical content.

David Villiers
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

20 July 2006