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/93 Collective Lever Lock 13/2003 DM

Applicability: Model AS 350 helicopter versions B, BA, BB, B1, B2, B3, and D; fitted with the pilot collective lever locking system: Locks part number 350A77.1309.xx and 350A27.3155.20.

Requirement: Check for wear on the collective lever lock by measuring dimension "C" on the collective lever, in accordance with paragraph 2.B.2 of Eurocopter AS 350 Alert Service Bulletin No. 67.00.27.

If dimension "C" is:

- Greater than 0.7mm; no further action is required.
- Between 0.7mm and 0.5mm; replace or turn the lock in accordance with paragraph 2.B.3 of the Requirement document, within 100 flight hours after measurement.
- Less than 0.5mm; before further flight, replace or turn the lock in accordance with 2.B.3 of the Requirement document.

Note: DGAC AD 2003-406(A) refers.

Compliance: Within 50 flight hours after 5 November 2003.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 5 November 2003.

Background: The DGAC requires certain actions in response to an incident where the collective lever unlocked, which resulted in unintentional takeoff and overturn. Investigation revealed excessive wear on the collective lever lock.

David Villiers
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority

31 October 2003

The above AD is notified in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on 5 November 2003.