



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2011-19
Issued: 17 June 2011

Subject: AmSafe Restraint Systems - Jammed Connector in a Rotary Buckle

Ref. Publication: None

Applicability: Rotary Buckle Part Number (P/N) 504928-405, which is used in AmSafe Restraint Systems P/N 2018, P/N 4077, P/N 4015, P/N 4016, P/N 4037, P/N 4039, P/N 4047, P/N 4049, P/N 4066, P/N 4078, P/N 4085, P/N 4093, P/N 4135, P/N 4160, P/N 4179, P/N 4199, P/N 5003, P/N 5004, P/N 5008, P/N 5016, P/N 5017, P/N 5021, P/N 5022, P/N 5027, P/N 5031, P/N 5033 and P/N 5036 series.

The affected restraint systems are known to be installed on, but not limited to, helicopters and fixed-wing aeroplanes.

Description: EASA was notified by Eurocopter (EC) about a reported occurrence during a non-emergency landing of an AS.365 N3 Dauphin helicopter. Specifically, a passenger could not release the connector in the pelvic portion of the four-point restraint system, identified as AmSafe P/N 4085-1-011-2396 with a rotary buckle P/N 504928-405.

Despite further investigation by the restraint system manufacturer, the cause for the malfunction has not been determined.

Based on the available information, EASA has determined that, at this time, this airworthiness concern is not an unsafe condition that would warrant Airworthiness Directive (AD) action.

Recommendations: EASA recommends that operators of affected aircraft implement the following actions:

- Inform all crew members that a jamming problem has been reported on the restraint system rotary buckle;
- In case of inability to release a belt during an emergency situation, the belt should be cut;

- In case of inability to release a belt in any other condition (non-emergency), the belt should be detached from the seat fitting attachment;
- In any case, do NOT tamper with, or attempt to open by force, the buckle to release the jammed fitting(s);
- Remove the restraint system from the aircraft and send it to AmSafe for further investigation.

Contacts:

For further information contact the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA; E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.

For technical details, replacement parts, or advice, contact:

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