	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2005-006	Distribution: A	Issue date: January 05, 2005	Page : 1/2
Direction générale de l'aviation civile France GSAC publication	This Airworthiness Directive is published by the DGAC on behalf of EASA, Airworthiness Authority of the State of Design for the affected product, part or appliance.		<i>Translation of « Consigne de Navigabilité » of same number. In case of difficulty, reference should be made to the French issue.</i>	
	No person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that Airworthiness Directive, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry.			
Corresponding foreign Airworthiness Directive(s): Not applicable		Airworthiness Directive(s) replaced: None		
Person in charge of airworthiness: EUROCOPTER		Type(s): AS 355 helicopters		
Type certificate(s) No. 168 TCDS No 168				
ATA chapter: 05, 55	Subject: Stabilizers - Upper and lower vertical fin spars			

1. EFFECTIVITY:

AS 355 helicopter versions E, F, F1, F2 and their associated serial numbers.

2. REASONS:

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued following two cases of cracks discovered in the spar of the upper vertical fin on two AS 355 helicopters.

In time, crack growth on the attachment spar of a vertical fin can lead to the failure of the spar and result in the loss of the vertical fin.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:

The following measures are rendered mandatory as from the effective date of this AD:


3.1. No later than within the next 25 flying hours, then at intervals of no more than 100 flying hours, check the spar of the upper and lower vertical fins for absence of cracks, in compliance with the instructions described in § 2.B. of referenced EUROCOPTER AS 355 Alert Telex No. 05.00.44.

3.2. Result analysis:

a) If a crack is found in one of the spars, replace the affected vertical fin as per Maintenance Manual (MET) Work Card 55.00.00.402.

b) If no crack is found:

Resume flights and repeat the check at intervals of no more than 100 flying hours (refer to § 3.1.).

	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2005-006	Distribution: A	Issue date: January 05, 2005	Page: 2/2
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4. REFERENCE PUBLICATION:

EUROCOPTER AS 355 Alert Telex No. 05.00.44
(Any subsequent approved revision to this Alert Telex is acceptable).

5. EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon receipt, as from January 05, 2005.

6. REMARK:

For any questions concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact:

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7. APPROVAL:

This AD is approved under EASA reference No 2004-02548 dated 1 December 27, 2004.

SUPERSEDED