	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2005-082	Distribution: A	Issue date: May 25, 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: 01, 65	Subject: Tail rotor drive shaft - Forward shaft section			

1. EFFECTIVITY:

AS 355 E, F, F1, F2 and N helicopters equipped with tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft section, part number 355A 34-1090-00 with serial numbers from 858 up to 873 (inclusive).

Note: this Airworthiness Directive (AD) does not apply to helicopters delivered after January 1st, 2005.

2. REASONS:

This AD is issued following a metallurgical non-conformity that was discovered on a flange of the tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft section of an ECUREUIL helicopter.


The stress analysis has shown that this non-conformity may significantly reduce the strength, and thereby the service life of this component.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:

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

3.1. Tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft sections specified in § 1 above, having logged less than 2,400 flying hours:

- At the latest at 2,500 flying hours and at the latest by December 31, 2005 (whichever occurs first), remove the drive shaft forward shaft section and install a drive shaft forward shaft section that is not covered by paragraph 1 above, in compliance with the instructions specified in § 2.B of referenced AS 355 Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. 01.00.51.

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3.2. Tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft sections specified in § 1 above, having logged 2,400 flying hours or more:

- At the latest within the next 100 flying hours and at the latest by December 31, 2005 (whichever occurs first), comply with the instructions specified in § 2.B. of the referenced ASB.

3.3. Tail rotor drive shaft forward shaft sections specified in § 1 above, held as spares:

- These shafts must be returned to the EUROCOPTER works at the latest by December 31, 2005.

4. REFERENCE PUBLICATION:

EUROCOPTER AS 355 Alert Service Bulletin No. 01.00.51
(Any subsequent approved revision to this ASB is acceptable).

5. EFFECTIVE DATE:

On receipt, as from May 25, 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 2005-4319 of May 18, 2005.