	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-1997-144-038 R1		Distribution: A	Issue date: February 01, 2006	Page : 1/2
	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>	
Direction générale de l'aviation civile France GSAC publication	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: 97-144-038 original issue		
Person in charge of airworthiness: EUROCOPTER			Type(s): SA 341/342 helicopters		
Type certificate(s) No. 66 TCDS No 136					
ATA chapter: 05	Subject: Time limits / Maintenance checks - Tail gearbox (TGB) support tripod				

1. EFFECTIVITY:

SA 341 G and SA 342 J helicopters, equipped with TGB support tripods, PN 341A23-1136-00, 01 and 02.

2. REASONS:

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued following some reports of cracks discovered in service, in the tripod arm welds.

Revision 1 of this AD updates the referenced Alert Service Bulletin (ASB), with no change to the technical content.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:


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

3.1. During each ALF-check (check after the last flight of the day) without exceeding 10 flying hours between two successive checks, make sure visually that there are no cracks in the TGB support tripod, in compliance with the instructions specified in paragraph 2.B.1. of referenced EUROCOPTER SA 341/342 ASB No. 05.32 R1. If in doubt, carry out a dye penetrant crack detection inspection as per Work Card 20.02.09.601.

3.2. Interpretation of the results.

If a crack (or cracks) is (are) found, replace the TGB support tripod before resuming flights.

3.3. Before installation, on a helicopter, of a tripod assembly, held in spare, engrave the identification of the tripod assembly in compliance with the instructions specified in paragraph 2.B.2. of the referenced ASB.

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4. REFERENCE PUBLICATION:

EUROCOPTER SA 341/342 Alert Service Bulletin No. 05.32 R1.
(Any subsequent approved revision to the ASB is acceptable).

5. EFFECTIVE DATES:

Original issue : July 12, 1997
Revision 1 : February 11, 2006.

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 Revision is approved under EASA reference No 2006-0022 dated January 24, 2006.