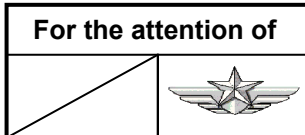


SAFETY INFORMATION NOTICE

SUBJECT: GENERAL

Reminder for a Safe Departure



AIRCRAFT CONCERNED	Version(s)	
	Civil	Military
EC120	B	
AS350	B, BA, BB, B1, B2, B3, D	L1
AS550		A2, C2, C3, U2
AS355	E, F, F1, F2, N, NP	
AS555		AF, AN, SN, UF, UN
EC130	B4, T2	

Airbus Helicopters is aware of several recent accidents that were due to failure to comply with the Flight Manual (FLM/AFM) procedures and/or due to disregard for basic airmanship and best practices necessary to ensure a safe take-off.

The aim of this Safety Information Notice is to remind pilots about the importance of good airmanship and compliance with the procedures given in the Flight Manual (FLM/AFM). Airbus Helicopters reminds pilots of the following best practices which will help to ensure a safe take-off:

1. Always comply with the current, approved FLM/AFM check lists (Pre-flight and Start-Up/Pre-Takeoff) and ensure that normal loads are felt on the flight controls (cyclic, collective, yaw pedals); Check that switch positions and cockpit configuration (caution and warning lights out) are correct for the phase of flight.
2. When lifting off, raise the collective pitch lever gently and check that the aircraft is behaving normally.
3. Prior to increasing the airspeed, perform a hover flight at around 5 ft. and confirm the normal behavior of the aircraft; Ensure that all caution and warning lights are out, and check that all rotor, engine, and system parameters are within the normal operating range.

Common errors occur when pilots and crew are rushed and hurried or have become complacent in their operating routine. If the collective pitch is increased too abruptly when leaving the ground and the initial hover check is not performed, as in a jump take-off, the opportunity to detect and respond to unexpected aircraft behavior with the appropriate power and control can be limited.

A successful flight starts well before the take-off. Remember to thoroughly follow the check list items and always be prepared for the unexpected.