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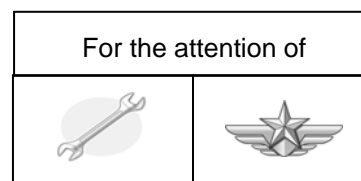
Lettre-Service

No. 1882-00-08

Marignane, 21.02.2008

SUBJECT:

GENERAL: Integration of a non EUROCOPTER Group design modification on helicopters, subject or not subject to an STC (Supplemental Type Certificate)



332	B	B1	M	M1	F1	C	C1	L	L1	L2
EC225	LP									

350	D	B	B1	B2	B3	BA	BB	LT
355	E	F	F1	F2	N	NP		
EC130	B4							

360	C												
365	C	C1	C2	C3	N	N1	N2	N3	K	F	F6	F1	
366	G1	Ga											
EC155	B	B1											

EC120	B
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321	Ja	Ga	Gb	Gc
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330	Sm	Ba	Ea	C	Ca	H	L	F	G	J	S1	JM	B
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341	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
342	J	Ma	L	L1	M	M1	

AL II	3130	313B		
AL II ASTAZOU	3180	318B	318C	
AL III	3160	316B	316C	319B
LAMA	315B			

Dear Customer,

Many equipment manufacturers or companies *not belonging to the EUROCOPTER Group* propose various equipment items or design modification which may be installed on EUROCOPTER helicopters. These equipments or design modifications may be subject to an STC (Supplemental Type Certificate) certification which is obtained from the local certification Authorities, mainly in Canada and the USA.

In order to make it easier to understand the following text of this Service Letter, all such equipment items or design modification, whether subject to an STC or not, will be referred to as "STC", whereas the entities responsible for the design of these equipments or modifications, whether subject to an STC or not, will be referred to as "STC Holder".

EUROCOPTER is aware that such "STC" may meet your operational requirements despite the wide range of equipment and optional items available on EUROCOPTER helicopters and despite the STCs developed by the subsidiaries of the EUROCOPTER Group.

The EUROCOPTER Group will be referred as EUROCOPTER in the following text.

Impact of "STC" on Flight Safety:

EUROCOPTER would like to draw customers' attention to the potential impact of these "STC" on flight safety and to the fact that EUROCOPTER cannot be held responsible for any damage resulting from the installation or use of such equipments or design modifications.

Events encountered in flight and due to "STC" failure are becoming more and more frequent. These events are mostly incidents of limited seriousness but which sometimes have lead to an accident. The flight safety impact of "STC" may result directly from the failure of the "STC" or due to operational interference with a helicopter component or degradation of helicopter performance caused by "STC".

Certification Conditions for "STC Equipment":

The local certification Authorities certify most "STC" without being subject to a consultation from EUROCOPTER and sometimes without analyzing the full effect of "STC" on a helicopter, and vice versa. The attachment method of the "STC", its shape and positioning, its design (i.e., materials, dimensioning), its electrical or mechanical power take-off, etc., and for the vibrations or loads to which it may exposed or generate shall be taken into account in order to demonstrate its conformity to the certification regulation to which it is subject to. Absent such deep analysis, the "STC" may be subject to failures or may give rise to failures which could seriously and adversely affect helicopter performance and flight safety.

EUROCOPTER recommends that customers inquire of the "STC Holder" and the local certification Authorities in order to ensure that the "STC" and its effects have been fully tested on the customer's helicopter model and that use of such "STC" has no adverse performance or other adverse flight safety effects on customer's helicopter.

EUROCOPTER accepts no responsibility for any accident, incident or other event (including any service difficulty) caused by, related to, or involving "STC". Use of "STC" may also cause the owner or operator of the helicopter to lose the protection of any warranties, if any, related to it.

Reminder of Some Basic Principles:

To ensure safe operation of its helicopter fleet, EUROCOPTER would like to remind you of the following basic principles:

* EUROCOPTER works to ensure the continued airworthiness of helicopters whose design is in strict accordance with the aircraft Type Certificate. EUROCOPTER also works to ensure compliance with applicable continuing airworthiness requirements for all equipments subject to a Supplemental Type Certificate obtained by a member of the EUROCOPTER Group, and their compatibility with EUROCOPTER helicopters.

- * A helicopter modified by installation of "STC" may be incompatible with measures, which are sometimes mandatory, introduced as part of the continued airworthiness of a helicopter.
- * "STC Holders" have airworthiness and continuing airworthiness responsibilities related to these "STC" which in many cases are complex and may require detailed analyses related to the "STC" quality and performance. These responsibilities are applicable for the whole service life of the "STC" and regardless of its operational location in the world. To that end, the "STC Holder" is required to collect and analyze information regarding any incidents encountered during the manufacture, operation and repair/overhaul of "STC" and define and distribute associated protective and corrective measures in an appropriate timeframe. The "STC Holder" is also responsible for ensuring that the "STC" is compatible with Airworthiness Directives and Service Bulletins issued for the helicopter models on which the "STC" is installed. If the "STC" is not so compatible, the "STC Holder" is required to introduce and distribute necessary protective and corrective measures in an appropriate timeframe. Customers should inform "STC Holders" and local certification Authorities about any occurrences caused by, related to, or involving a "STC" as required by law.
- * EUROCOPTER does not and has no ability to issue, distribute or transmit to its customers any documents concerning any "STC" whether published by the "STC Holder", any Airworthiness Authority or any other party.
- * EUROCOPTER does not and has no ability to guarantee or otherwise warrant the compatibility of any "STC" with any EUROCOPTER helicopter, any EUROCOPTER optional equipment or any Supplemental Type Certificate obtained by a member of the EUROCOPTER, or any other "STC". Customer alone is fully responsible for ensuring such compatibility throughout the life of its helicopter.
- * The functional compatibility of a "STC" with a basic helicopter design and the effects of a "STC" on a helicopter and on flight safety may change following a modification embodied by EUROCOPTER on the helicopter. As EUROCOPTER is not involved in the design, production, certification, or management of the "STC," it cannot ensure that a modification embodied by EUROCOPTER on a helicopter will be compatible with any existing or future "STC".
- * Answers provided by EUROCOPTER within the scope of Technical Support are based on a EUROCOPTER Group definition of the subject aircraft model and may be incompatible with the design of a helicopter modified with a "STC".
- * The content of maintenance programs, overhauls and repairs defined and implemented by EUROCOPTER and its approved maintenance network is based on a design conforming to the helicopter Type Certificate, i.e. a non-modified design. In no way will EUROCOPTER be responsible should this work be incompatible with helicopters modified by a "STC".

The constraints described above remain valid even if:

- * "STC" is installed by a member of the EUROCOPTER Group before delivery of the helicopter or subsequently thereto at the customer's request if the "STC Holder" does not belong to the EUROCOPTER Group. In such a case, the installation work is performed under a specific, limited installation contract and in no way constitutes the acceptance of any responsibility by the member of the EUROCOPTER Group related to the "STC" or the effect thereof, if any, on any helicopter or on flight safety. In such cases, the member of the EUROCOPTER Group will be responsible for the quality of the installation work (always subject to the terms of the installation contract) and in no way for the quality of the "STC" or its effect on the helicopter or flight safety.
- * EUROCOPTER provides, at customer request, a "technical non-objection" statement concerning the installation of a "STC". EUROCOPTER notes incidentally that a "technical non-objection" statement provided by EUROCOPTER at a given time may not be compatible with future "STC" or EUROCOPTER modifications to a helicopter.
The customer must ensure continued compatibility for the life of its helicopter.

Sustainability of a "STC" and its Technical Support:

EUROCOPTER also notes that some "STC Holders" do not ensure the continued airworthiness of their "STC". We advise customers having knowledge of any incident or accident caused by, related to, or involving "STC" to contact the "STC Holder" or the local Certification Authorities for instructions related to continued airworthiness of such "STC".


Some "STC Holders" do not guarantee sustainability of the "STC" or do not ensure customer support. In no way can EUROCOPTER act as a substitute for these companies. "STC Holders" also may cease to exist, potentially leaving no customer or continuing airworthiness support.

Conclusion:

EUROCOPTER is aware of its customers' requirements in terms of equipment or complementary adaptation of helicopters, and will do its best to meet customer needs. However EUROCOPTER draws customer attention to the potentially negative flight safety and other impacts which may occur with use of "STC". Should a customer decide to equip any helicopter with any "STC", EUROCOPTER advises it to make certain that the "STC Holder" has and is able to comply with all regulatory and other legal requirements and that it has ensured that the "STC" is compatible with the helicopter and all its equipments from the technical and flight safety standpoints. As stated above, EUROCOPTER has no ability to verify such compatibility and does not do so. As also stated above, EUROCOPTER accepts no responsibility for any incident, accident or other event (including any service difficulty) caused by, related to, or involving any "STC". Use of a "STC" may also cause the owner or operator of the helicopter to lose the protection of any warranties, if any, related to it.

Yours sincerely,

J.P. DEDIEU

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form the name J.P. DEDIEU.

Senior Vice-President,
Fleet Safety