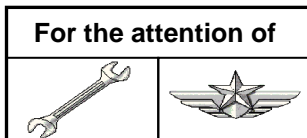


SAFETY INFORMATION NOTICE

SUBJECT: ENGINE CONTROLS - PRODUCT SAFETY ENHANCEMENT

New Fuel Shut Off Lever design on cabin floor (MOD 075101)



AIRCRAFT CONCERNED	Version(s)	
	Civil	Military
AS350	B, BA, BB, B1, B2, B3, D	L1
AS550		A2, C2, C3, U2

Following an helicopter accident that ditched on the East River, the NTSB (U.S National Transport Safety Board) determines that the probable cause of this accident was the use of passenger harness/tether systems, which caught on and activated the engine Fuel Shut Off Lever (FSOL) and resulted in the in-flight loss of engine power and the subsequent ditching.

Airbus Helicopters would like to inform his customers of the release of the Service Bulletin (SB) N° AS350-76.00.24.

Despite the absence of any airworthiness requirement to protect the FSOL from accidental activation due to external influences from passengers and because the safety of crew and passengers is always our highest priority, Airbus Helicopters has developed a design modification (MOD 075101) to the FSOL.

As a product safety enhancement, it will allow to minimize the risk of accidental activation while still allowing the FSOL to be easily activated by pilots in case of an emergency.

So, Airbus Helicopters strongly recommends that customers take advantage of this important product safety enhancement by applying the SB N° AS350-76.00.24 replacing the current FSOL by the new one (MOD 075101) on AS350 B2 & B3 versions.

Later this modification will be proposed to all AS350/AS550 versions equipped with levers on the floor.

Moreover, Airbus Helicopters reminds operators of their responsibility to ensure the proper securing of passengers and items in the cabin to avoid possible inadvertent interference with flight controls or emergency equipment, including floor mounted Fuel Shut Off Levers (FSOL).