



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: April 19, 2016

In reply refer to: A-16-11

Mr. Patrick Ky
Executive Director
European Aviation Safety Agency
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On March 23, 2016, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) adopted our safety recommendation report concerning two 2015 accidents involving an Airbus Helicopters EC130 B4 and an AS350 B3e in which the impact forces were survivable for occupants but fatal and serious injuries occurred because of postcrash fires that resulted from an impact-related breach in the fuel tanks. Additional information about these accidents, NTSB case numbers CEN15FA164 and CEN15MA290, and the findings that led to our recommendations may be found, respectively, in the reports of the investigations and the safety recommendation report, both of which can be accessed at our [Aviation Information Resources](#) web page.

As a result of this investigation, we issued four new recommendations, including three to the Federal Aviation Administration, and the following recommendation to the European Aviation Safety Agency:

A-16-11

Once Airbus Helicopters completes development of a retrofit kit to incorporate a crash-resistant fuel system into AS350 B3e and similarly designed variants, prioritize its approval to accelerate its availability to operators.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in this recommendation.

The NTSB is vitally interested in this recommendation because it is designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days, as required by 49 *United States Code* section 1135, detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement it. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation by number and submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman