

Follow-up Action on Occurrence Report

ACCIDENT TO MD900, G-EHMS, AT WALWORTH ROAD, SOUTHWARK ON 4 JUNE 2006

CAA FACTOR NUMBER : F28/2007
FACTOR PUBLICATION DATE : 13 September 2007
OPERATOR : Virgin HEMS
CAA OCCURRENCE NUMBER : 2006/04637
AAIB REPORT : Bulletin 9/2007

SYNOPSIS

From AAIB Report:

The helicopter was attending a road traffic accident (RTA) in which a pedestrian had suffered potentially life-threatening injuries. While landing on a garage forecourt, close to the RTA, a metal sign became detached from the wall of the garage and was blown into the main rotor disc. The commander was able to make a controlled landing on the forecourt and no-one within or outside the helicopter was injured by the flying metal debris from the sign.

FOLLOW UP ACTION

The two Safety Recommendations made by the AAIB following their investigation are reproduced below together with the CAA's responses.

Recommendation 2007-057

It is recommended that the European Aviation Safety Agency perform a risk assessment of the policies and procedures in JAR-OPS 3 associated with Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) operating into improvised confined areas.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2007-058

It is recommended that the Civil Aviation Authority ensure that a risk assessment is performed of the current agreed operating standards associated with Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) operating into improvised confined areas.

CAA Response

The CAA accepts this Recommendation and will ensure that all HEMS operators carry out new risk assessments to confirm that current policies and procedures address the potential risk to HEMS operations into improvised confined areas. These risk assessments will be audited by the CAA and the audits will be planned to be completed by 31st December 2007.

CAA Status - Open