

Continuing Airworthiness Notice – 27-004



Robinson R44 Helicopters Flight Control Hydraulic Servos

21 March 2011

Issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand in the interests of aviation safety. A Continuing Airworthiness Notice (CAN) is intended to alert, educate, and make recommendations to the aviation community. A CAN contains non-regulatory information and guidance that does not meet the criteria for an Airworthiness Directive (AD). The inspections and practices described in this CAN must still be carried out in accordance with the applicable NZCAR Parts 21, 43 and 91.

The contents of this notice are ADVISORY ONLY and are NOT MANDATORY.

CAN numbering is by ATA Chapter followed by a sequential number for the next CAN in that ATA Chapter.

Applicability:

All operators and maintainers of Robinson R44 series helicopters fitted with a hydraulic assisted flight control system.

Purpose:

This Continuing Airworthiness Notice (CAN) advises operators and maintainers of affected R44 helicopters to accomplish an inspection of the flight control system hydraulic servos.

Background:

This CAN is prompted by Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) Safety Advisory Notice AO-2011-016-SAN-001 which is issued after an overseas R44 Astro training flight accident. A preliminary examination of the wreckage identified that a bolt securing part of the flight control system had detached.

Recommendation:

Although the overseas accident is still under investigation the ATSB in the interest of aviation safety have issued Safety Advisory Notice AO-2011-016-SAN-001 recommending and inspection of the hydraulic flight control servos fitted to Robinson R44 aircraft.

The CAA recommends that operators and maintainers of Robinson R44 fitted with a hydraulic assisted flight control system review Safety Advisory Notice AO-2011-016-SAN-001 and inspect the aircraft flight control system paying particular attention to the attachment of the flight control hydraulic servos.

For further background information on the subject of this CAN a copy of ATSB Safety Advisory Notice AO-2011-016-SAN-001 and the Preliminary ATSB Safety Report can be obtained from:

http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2011/air/ao-2011-016.aspx

Enquiries:

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