	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE No F-2004-176		Distribution: A	Issue date: November 10, 2004	Page : 1/2
	Direction générale de l'aviation civile France GSAC publication	This Airworthiness Directive is published by the DGAC on behalf of EASA, Airworthiness Authority of the State of Design for the affected product, part or appliance.		<i>Translation of « Consigne de Navigabilité » of same number. In case of difficulty, reference should be made to the French issue.</i>	
No person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that Airworthiness Directive, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry.					
Corresponding foreign Airworthiness Directive(s): Not applicable		Airworthiness Directive(s) replaced: None			
Person in charge of airworthiness: EUROCOPTER		Type(s): AS 355 helicopters			
Type certificate(s) No. 168 TCDS No 168					
ATA chapter: 64	Subject: Tail rotor - Tail rotor blade trailing edge tab				

1. **EFFECTIVITY:**

AS 355 helicopters, versions E, F, F1, F2 and N, fitted with tail rotor blades PN 355A 12.0040 all dash numbers, and PN 355A 12.0050 all dash numbers, with serial numbers from 8400 to 9224 inclusive, before embodiment of Repair Sheet FR No. 238 or of Work Card 64.10.00.872 [refer to the equipment log card (FME)].

2. **REASONS:**

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued following some reports of significant tail rotor blade trailing edge tab debonding.

The loss of the tab leads to a significant increase in the vibration level of the aircraft.


3. **MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:**

The following measures are rendered mandatory from the effective date of this AD:

- 3.1. No later than within 100 flying hours without exceeding 3 months (the first limit reached is applicable), install additional rivets on the trailing edge tab of blades listed in § 1., in compliance with the instructions specified in § 2.B. of referenced EUROCOPTER AS 355 Alert Service Bulletin No. 64.00.04.
- 3.2. Prior to installing blades listed in § 1, held as spares, comply with the instructions specified in § 2.B. of the referenced ASB.

4. **REFERENCE PUBLICATION:**

EUROCOPTER AS 355 Alert Service Bulletin No. 64.00.04 "corresponds to Repair Sheet FR No. 283". (Any subsequent approved revision of this ASB is acceptable).

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5. **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

November 20, 2004.

6. **REMARK:**

For any questions concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact:

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7. **APPROVAL:**

This AD is approved under EASA reference No 2004-10841 dated November 03, 2004.