

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Pipistrel Alpha Electro 167 and similar microlight aeroplanes, fall within the category of aeroplanes to which the European common rules on civil aviation do not apply (Basic Regulation, Regulation (EC) 216/2008, which was applicable when the aeroplane was registered, now replaced by Regulation (EU) 2018/1139). These aeroplanes fall under the regulatory control of the member states, in light of their limited risk to civil aviation safety, simple design, or operations mainly on local basis. However, microlight aeroplanes have become more advanced and increasingly popular over the years and they are also operated across borders. With the growing numbers and the increasing complexity of the design of microlight aeroplanes, the Dutch Safety Board believes also for these aircraft a minimum level of safety within Europe should be determined.

The Dutch Safety Board therefore issues the following recommendations:

To the Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management:

1. To improve the safety of microlight aeroplanes registered and/or operating in the Netherlands and the safety of third parties, by setting up and implementing effective oversight of the sector.
2. With regard to the innovation of microlight aeroplanes, determine additional requirements that microlight aeroplanes registered and/or operating in the Netherlands must meet and implement them within the Netherlands. Then actively strive to accept these requirements as standard within the member states of European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC), with the aim of creating a minimum level of safety for this category of aircraft.
3. For the long term to promote that the requirements and oversight of microlight aeroplanes will be evaluated and reconsidered by European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).