

**EASA
Safety Recommendation Reply**

Recommendation NETH-2010-002 received on 29/04/2010

Subject:	Accident to Eurocopter AS 332L2, registration G-JSAR, on 21/11/2006, at the North Sea, near Den Helder, Netherlands
Safety Recommendation:	The Dutch Safety Board recommends that EASA considers to provide solutions concerning the "smoothness" of survival suits in combination with inflated life jackets in order that speedy retrieval of survivors from the water is not hampered.
Response:	<p>EASA European Technical Standard Order (ETSO) 2C502 and ETSO-2C503 (both published in July 2006) provide minimum performance standards for helicopter crew and passenger immersion suits. ETSO-2C502 defines integrated immersion suit systems which incorporates the functionality of a lifejacket whereas ETSO-2C503 defines immersion suits which require the wearing of a compatible life jacket. In addition, ETSO-2C504 (published also in July 2006) provides minimum performance standards for constant wear life jackets to be worn with a compatible immersion suits according to ETSO-2C503.</p> <p>ETSO-2C502 (integrated immersion suit) as well as ETSO-2C504 (constant wear life jacket) requires specific design features for recovery of survivors from the water and therefore already address this Safety Recommendation. In fact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The integrated suit according to ETSO-2C502 (for ETSO-2C504: the life jacket) must be fitted with a lifting becket which complies with the requirements of paragraph 4.15 of the European Standard EN 396:1993 or equivalent. • The inflated or uninflated immersion suit according to ETSO-2C502 (for ETSO-2C504: inflated or uninflated life jacket) shall not adversely affect recovery of the wearer by the use of a rescue strop with a circumference of 180cm (70in). <p>In the related accident report it is stated that immersion suits and separate life jackets had been used but no information either on the manufacturer or on the certification standard(s) of the crew and passenger immersion suits is provided. However, since the accident occurred in November 2006, it is assumed that the concerned immersion suits and life jackets were not certificated versus ETSO-2C503 respectively ETSO-2C504 which were only published 4 months prior to the accident.</p> <p>Nevertheless all immersion suits respectively constant wear life jackets certificated after the date of July 2006 are provided with design features to aid the recovery of survivors from water.</p> <p>In conclusion, while the recommendation can be deemed applicable to earlier standards, and its spirit is accepted, the mentioned EASA ETSOs, published in 2006, already improve the speedy retrieval of survivors from water.</p>
Status:	Closed - Agreement

EASA
Safety Recommendation Reply

Recommendation NETH-2010-001 received on 02/03/2010

Subject:	Accident to Eurocopter AS 332L2, registration G-JSAR, on 21/11/2006, at the North Sea, near Den Helder, Netherlands
Safety Recommendation:	The Board recommends that EASA consider expanding the parameters for the flight data recorders of helicopters to include the forces of the steering ("control forces"), as is the case in some categories of fixed wing aircrafts.
Response:	Rulemaking tasks RMT.0308 and RMT.0309 [former OPS.023 (a) and (b)] 'FDRs - alignment with ED-112 (IRs) - Update of the parameter list including the parameter performance' are on the Agency's Rulemaking Programme and they address the intent of the Safety Recommendation.
Status:	Open