

EUROCOPTER AS355N Model Guide

EUROCOPTER AS355N is the N variant of the AS355 family, listed under Airbus Helicopters. Family registry data gives up to 6 passengers, up to 390 nm range, up to 2600 kg MTOW and up to 13500 ft service ceiling. These are family maxima, not N-specific figures. No variant-specific performance data was supplied, so verify against the flight manual.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Alert Service Bulletin 55.00.12 (MOD 073330) covers fin attachment on E, F, F1, F2 and N models. Compliance was mandatory by March 31, 2009.
- MOD 073330 was built into new helicopters delivered from 1st April 2007. Check the Certificate of Conformity or log book for the aircraft's modification status.
- Records conflict on engine type: the library says piston, the family registry says turboshaft. Confirm from the aircraft's own documents.
- An AF200-2 camera/searchlight mount (STC SR01058LA) may be fitted. It needs 100-hour and 1000-hour inspections.

SAFETY NOTES

- Confirm fin bolts P/N 350A23-4016-20 and washers P/N 350A23-4017-22 are fitted (4 of each per helicopter) under mandatory ASB 55.00.12.
- AF200-2 mount: any crack or any bolt hole elongation means the mount must be removed from service and returned to Airfilm Camera Systems.

FIN ATTACHMENT BULLETIN

ASB 55.00.12 Revision 1 (issued 2009.01.05) improves fatigue strength of the upper and lower fin attachment. It followed an event where an upper fin tilted leftwards during take-off on an Ecureuil-family aircraft. The mod enlarges bolt holes from 7 mm to 7.5 mm and fits special higher-head bolts and washers. Work takes about 4 hours and about 1 day of downtime.

WHAT TO CHECK IN THE RECORDS

Ask for the recorded embodiment of MOD 073330 and compliance with ASB 55.00.12 in the aircraft documents. Pre-MOD and post-MOD fins are physically but not functionally interchangeable, and mixing parts is prohibited. Retrofitted fins carry new part numbers, e.g. 355A14-0522-00XX becomes 355A08-5508-0201.

CAMERA/SEARCHLIGHT MOUNT

If an Airfilm AF200-2 mount is fitted, it needs a visual inspection every 100 hours. Every 1000 hours it must be removed and disassembled for inspection. No field repair or overhaul is allowed. Any crack or bolt hole elongation, or dents, scratches or nicks over 0.010 inches, means removal from service. Tube dents over 0.020 inches also mean removal.