

Investigation of aircraft accident at Sognesand, Sandnes Municipality, Rogaland County, Norway

On 16 November 2020 LN-OAX, an Airbus helicopters AS 350 B3, lost control during delivery of concret to a powermast fundament.

The aircraft was performing external load flights with delivering of concrete to a powerline fundament. During delivery of concrete to powerline mast number 49, the pilot experienced severe vertically vibrations. The pilot took immediate action, released the external load and was capable to manoeuvre the helicopter away from the construction area. During this operation the helicopter lost altitude and hit some trees. The helicopter stopped laying on the right-hand side about 33 meters from the construction area. No persons were seriously injured.

After initial inspection at the accident site the helicopter has been transported to the Norwegian Safety Investigation Authority's facilities in Lillestrøm, Norway for further examinations.



Photo: NSIA

Update 28 January 2021

NSIA publishes a preliminary report to update on both factual information and the progress related to the aircraft accident.

Update 21 February 2024

The reason for the oscillations is likely that the helicopter came up in a situation where the

Rotorcraft Pilot Coupling occurred. In 2023, Airbus Helicopters published two safety informations describing the phenomenon Pilot Induced Oscillation. (SIN 3899-S-67 and SIN 3890-S-00).

Status of the investigation

The investigation is in the final phase. A draft report is about to be sent for consultation.

Latest update: 21.02.2024

Facts

Location	Sognesand, Sandnes Municipality, Rogaland County, Norway
Occurrence date	16.11.2020
Aircraft	Airbus Helicopter AS 350 B3 Ecureuil
Operator	Heli-Team AS
Registration	LN-OAX
Meteorological conditions	VMC
County	Rogaland
Type of occurrence	Accident
Type of operation	Commercial, other
Category of operation	Light, helicopter (<= 2 250kg)
Aircraft category	Helicopter, Single-engine, Turboprop/turboshaft
FIR/AOR	ENSV (Stavanger ATCC)

NSIA conducts its investigations for the sole purpose of improving transportation safety. The object of a safety investigation is to clarify the sequence of events and root cause factors, study matters of significance for the prevention of transportation accidents and improvement of transportation safety, and to publish a report with eventually safety recommendations. NSIA shall not apportion any blame or liability. Use of information from this investigation for any other purpose than for improvements of transportation safety shall be avoided.