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Investigation of a serious aviation incident at Hammerfest airport, ENHF

The Norwegian Safety Investigation Authority has initiated an investigation to an incident where two aircrafts ended up in close proximity to each other.

The incident occurred when a helicopter departed while a DCH-8 was on approach to Hammerfest airport.

In the afternoon on 4 November 2024 an S-92 helicopter from Bristow Norway took off from runway 22 at Hammerfest airport. At the same time a DCH-8 from Widerøe was 15 nm from the airport on an approach to runway 04. The airplane intended to circle for landing on runway 22.

Both aircraft received TCAS Traffic Advisory (TA) warning followed by a Resolution Advisory (RA) warning. The helicopter performed an evasive manoeuvre and the DHC-8 performed a missed approach.

Update 18 November 2025

The NSIA has received the analysis report from Collins Aerospace. The report shows that the TCAS unit functioned as intended during the incident, and provides the NSIA with further information on the sequence of events. The analysis on the course of events of the incident can now be completed.

The investigation is ongoing.

Update 7 July 2025

The investigation is progressing, and the NSIA has collected the information it considers relevant at this time, except potential data from a TCAS unit. This unit is sent to the producer, Collins, in the US, for analysis. The NSIA awaits this information before the investigation analysis can be completed. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) assists in follow-up of the producer. At this time, the extent of data available on the unit is not clear.

In the meantime, the investigation focuses on other topics, such as air space structure, phraseology and TCAS functions.

Latest update: 18.11.2025

Facts

Location	Hammerfest airport (ENHF), Norway
Occurrence date	04.11.2024
ICAO Location indicator	ENHF
Aircraft	DeHavilland DHC-8 / Sikorsky øvrige
Operator	Bristow Norway AS

Registration	LN-WIT, LN-ONY
Meteorological conditions	IMC
County	Finmark
Type of occurrence	Serious incident
Type of operation	Scheduled air transport / Commercial, other
Category of operation	Heavy, aeroplane (> 10 000kg) / Heavy, helicopter (> 2 250kg)
Aircraft category	Helicopter, Landplane, Multi-engine, Turboprop/turboshaf
FIR/AOR	ENOB (Bodø FIC/OFIR)

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.