

Safety Recommendation Number:	IRLD2009012
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Safety Recommendation Status:	Closed

Safety Recommendation:

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) should strongly encourage all helicopter pilots to undergo Simulator Training, where available, on their initial Type Rating Course and, thereafter, to undertake Emergency Training when training for its revalidation.

Response:

EASA, by letter on 5 Jan 2010, acknowledged receipt of the safety recommendation, and advised the AAIU that it was under consideration and that the outcome would be communicated to the AAIU in due course. EASA, by letter of 4 February 2010, informed the AAIU they considered this Safety Recommendation to be Closed -- Partial Agreement and that:

Most of the national helicopter flight crew licencing regulations, based on JAR FCL-2 contain the requirements. JAR FCL-2 and EASA Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA) 2008-17B already contains credit provisions for Flight Simulation Training Devices in any Commercial Pilot Licence (Helicopter) CPL(H), Airline Transport Pilot Licence (Helicopter) ATPL(H), Instrument Rating (Helicopter) IR(H), integrated and modular courses. In addition Type Rating training, skill test and proficiency check can be conducted on helicopter flight simulators.

A number of in-flight failures and emergency situations are modelled nearest to realistic conditions. However a part of emergency situations involving aerodynamic behaviours cannot be accurately simulated. This limitation results in producing only an approximate experienced emergency situation; that does not reflect all actual in-flight aerodynamic conditions

As such, JAR FCL-2 and EASA-NPA 2008-17B already encourage simulator training. EASA considers that no specific additional action is necessary, pending the transition from JAR FCL-2 into a European FCL rule.

AAIU Comment:

The AAIU considers this Safety Recommendation as 'Closed'