

LH Engine Cowl contact with Main Rotor Blades



HeliOffshore
Safety Through Collaboration

Incident Synopsis:

- During final approach to an offshore facility the crew heard a thud and loud bang, there were no abnormal vibrations felt.
- On Helideck the crew inspected the aircraft and found the LH engine cowl unlocked and damage on the forward cowl skin.
- Aircraft was shut down. Further inspection on aircraft found damage on the underside of all five main rotor blades near the root end. The location is consistent from contact with the damaged area of the LH engine cowl.

Incident Date	January 2016
Location	Malaysia
Distribution Priority	Immediate
AC Type	AW-139
H/O Use Only	2016-001

Cause:

- Under investigation

Actions Taken:

- On the particular aircraft; no other damage was found. All five blades will be replaced and the damaged engine cowl will be repaired. Aircraft to be transported back to shore for repairs. MPFR, HUMS and HFDM data downloaded for further analysis to assist in investigation which has been initiated.
- On other aircraft in fleet of same type; one time inspection carried out on cowl locking mechanisms of the same type. In one instance upon knocking the locking mechanism area, mechanism became unlocked. Suspect adjustment of the locking mechanism is out. Other aircrafts found satisfactory.
- No reported case previously within the company.
- OEM informed of the incident.

Update:

- A Learning from Incident (LFI) will be issued upon completion of the investigation for sharing