



Safety recommendation no. 542

Date of the publication	10.09.2018
Number of the final report	2334
Safety deficit	<p>Shortly after take-off after a touch and go, a light aircraft of type Aero AT-3 flew into the wake turbulence of a helicopter which had flown over the runway centreline shortly before. The crew of the light aircraft only just managed to prevent a crash.</p> <p>Insufficient awareness by air traffic control and the crews of the risk of wake turbulence from a helicopter was identified as a causal factor in the occurrence of the serious incident.</p>
Safety recommendation	The Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), in conjunction with flight schools and other affected stakeholders, should ensure that pilots and other persons involved in flight operations are instructed and made aware of wake turbulence from helicopters and the resulting hazards.
Addressees	BAZL Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt; BAZL Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt
Stage of the implementation	<p>Partially implemented. On 10 January 2019, the FOCA published an article on its website under the headline "stay safe!". Drawing on the relevant comments from the STSB investigation report, it dealt with the topic of hazards from wake turbulence emanating from helicopters. In addition, the FOCA published safety awareness notification FOCA SAND-2019-001, which explains the topic of wake turbulence from helicopters on the basis of information from reference documents, such as the STSB's investigation report and US Air Force and US Federal Aviation Administration reports. A solution, in direct cooperation with flight schools and other affected stakeholders, whereby pilots and other persons involved in flight operations are sensitised to wake turbulence from helicopters and the resulting dangers, has not yet been sought, which is why the STSB considers the safety recommendation to have been partially implemented.</p>
Investigation report concerning the safety recommendation	<u>Schlussbericht</u> <u>Vorbericht</u>