Safety recommendation no. 579

Date of the publication	21.09.2021
Safety deficit	The crew of a Guimbal Cabri G2 helicopter constructed in 2020, equipped with a Lycoming Engines O-360-J2A engine that was also manufactured in 2020, per-formed an autorotation following a drop in engine oil pressure that resulted in too little tension on the drive belt and thus a reduction in rotor speed. The subsequent investigation showed a narrowed section, as well as chips and non-deburred drilling work in one of the oil ducts in the accessory housing. An in-spection of further engines constructed in 2020 and 2021 revealed similar find-ings. It may therefore be assumed that further O-360 series engines will display similar shortcomings that, depending on use, might result in a considerable risk during flight operations.
Safety recommendation	The US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) should take appropriate action to ensure that all operators of O-360-series Lycoming Engines identify and remedy narrowed sections of the oil duct in the accessory housing caused by possible manufacturing deficiencies.
Addressees	Federal Aviation Administration
Investigation report concerning the safety recommendation	Notification Rapporto preliminare Zwischenbericht Intermediate report Rapporto intermedio