



FAA
Aviation Safety

SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

SAIB: SW-10-41
Date: August 5, 2010

SUBJ: Honeywell MK XXII EGPWS Software Problem
This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin advises you of an airworthiness concern regarding potential unannounced failures of the MK XXII **Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning System** (EGPWS) aural alerting function. At this time, the airworthiness concern is not an unsafe condition that would warrant airworthiness directive (AD) action under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR) part 39.

Background

Honeywell issued a Service Information Letter (Publication Number D201004000029), dated April 16, 2010, stating that the MK XXII EGPWS used in helicopters will experience an unannounced loss of the Terrain Awareness Warning System (TAWS) aural alerting function if the radio altimeter is in either the no computed data (NCD) state or the radio altimeter data invalid state at takeoff. The EGPWS terrain display will still be active and accurate except for the lack of alert (caution or warning) indications. Once the radio altimeter transmits valid data, the TAWS aural alerts will become fully functional for the duration of the flight, even if the radio altimeter subsequently encounters a NCD condition. Honeywell is working on a software modification to correct this problem. The software update is expected to be available in the fourth quarter of 2010.

In the interim, owners and operators of helicopters equipped with Honeywell MK XXII EGPWS systems need to be aware that the TAWS aural alerting function may become non-functional due to a radio altimeter data invalid or NCD state. This SAIB is to make rotorcraft owners and operators aware of the problem and of the proposed forthcoming solution. When Honeywell makes the software upgrade available, we will revise this SAIB to communicate this information to you.

For Further Information Contact

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