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SOLOY'S HONEYWELL INSTALLATION PROVEN IN OPERATION

Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters Honeywell LTS 101 equipped Eurocopter AS350 AStar fleet milestone

On July 20th, 2006, Papillon Grand Canyon Helicopters recorded an impressive milestone in the operation of their fleet of Honeywell STC equipped Eurocopter AS350 - Soloy "Super-D" helicopters.

Papillon converted its four AS350BA helicopters to Honeywell power in late 2003. This conversion replaced the AS350BA's existing Turbomeca Arriel 1B engine with the newly released Honeywell LTS 101-600A3-A series turboshaft engine.

Papillon has recorded an impressive 20,000 hours of incident-free operation on the Soloy "Super-D" fleet, in just three short years. These helicopters operate in the demanding Southwestern U.S. environment, performing air-tours of the Grand Canyon, AZ and additionally operating night flights over the City of Las Vegas, NV.

"With outside air temperatures regularly exceeding +40°C, the Honeywell Super-D's have demonstrated excellent hot and high performance, while also showing an 8% reduction in fuel consumption over the previous engine installation" say's Papillon Helicopter's Las Vegas base Director of Maintenance, Dean Brandt.

Operational costs for the LTS101 equipped AStar's have proven most beneficial for Papillon's operation, specifically the engines on-condition TBO requirement and economical 1800 hour periodic inspection.

Recently, Papillon has accepted its first of seven Soloy "Super D-2" helicopters, a Eurocopter AS350B2, re-engined with the even more powerful Honeywell LTS101-700D-2 turboshaft engine. This STC conversion replaces the original Turbomeca Arriel 1D1 powerplant.

Papillon's initial operations of the Super D-2 have also demonstrated the same impressive performance and fuel savings realized by the Soloy Super-D.

The order book for Soloy's AS350B2 conversion includes back orders for over 50 aircraft. This conversion marks 35 years of Soloy products which include more than 600 civilian and military helicopters. The AS350SD2 is the ninth (9th) helicopter engine installation certification for Soloy.

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