

Eurocopter AS350, Loose Oil Reservoir Cap, ATA 7261

The engine oil reservoir cap came off in flight, says this submitter, "resulting in significant oil loss. The helicopter returned to base with no problems encountered. The issue is Eurocopter's 'unique' retaining mechanism for the oil cap. (*This*) retaining mechanism is easily dislodged, and yet still appears to be locking the cap into place. Unless you are specifically looking at the retaining mechanism during a preflight—and you know what it is supposed to look like when it is in the locked position—it can be easily overlooked. (*I*) recommend Eurocopter devise some type of safety device for their retaining mechanism. Also, this (*item*) should be added to their 'Before First Flight' checklist.



Eurocopter AS350, Loose Oil Reservoir Cap, ATA 7261

