

Synopsis

Operator: Abu Dhabi Aviation
Aircraft: Type: Bell 212
Manufacturer: Bell Helicopters
State of registration: United Arab Emirates
Registration: A6-BAB
Serial Number: 31227

Place of Accident: Jabal Akhdar mountains, Rostak region, Oman
(23.16.933 NI 57.29.248 E)

Date and Time: 7th May 2005 at 14.30 local time (10.30 UTC)

On 7th May 2005, at approximately 14:30 local time (10:30 UTC), an Abu Dhabi Aviation Bell 212 helicopter landed at a site in the Jabal Akhdar mountains (Rostak region, Oman); during the landing process the main rotor of the helicopter contacted an antenna mast standing in the vicinity of the landing area.

On board the flight were the pilot in command (PIC), one maintenance engineer from Abu Dhabi Aviation (not part of the flight crew) and 4 passengers (telephone company technicians). The flight originated from Al Sawadi on 7th May 2005 at 09:25 local time (05:25 UTC) to transport the technicians to four sites in the Jabal Akhdar mountain area in order to carry out maintenance on antenna installations. During landing at the last (fourth) site, the helicopter main rotor blades struck an antenna tower resulting in major structural damage to the helicopter as well as damage to antenna tower and one of the antenna's installed on the tower.

There were no injuries amongst crew and passengers.

The accident was notified to the Director Flight Safety Department by the commercial manager of MAS (Mashareea Al Sultanate) at approximately 14:45 local time (10:45 UTC) on 7 May 2005. An investigation team from the Flight Safety Department comprised of inspectors from the Operations and Airworthiness Sections was dispatched to the scene of the accident on 8 May 2005 at 09:00 local time (04:00 UTC) to determine the circumstances that lead to its occurrence. Due to the inaccessibility of the terrain the team was transported by helicopter.

The team was accompanied by the pilot and maintenance engineer involved, the company chief pilot and the flight safety officer. Two engineers of the telephone company had also joined the team to evaluate damage to the antenna mast.