



INTERIM REPORT

Safety Investigation Authority Finland, July 10, 2025

AVIATION ACCIDENT NEAR EURA AERODROME ON MAY 17, 2025

This interim report includes only those facts that have been established by the date of the report. A full investigation report will be issued later.

Two helicopters en route from Tallinn, Estonia, to Piikajärvi, Finland, were involved in a mid-air collision at 1234 local time (0934 UTC) on Saturday May 17, 2025. The accident occurred to the north of Eura aerodrome. The helicopters were destroyed and all five occupants sustained fatal injuries.

FACTUAL INFORMATION

The helicopters (registration ES-ETR and OE-XOS) departed Linnahall heliport (EECL), Tallinn, for Piikajärvi aerodrome (EFPI) via flight planned route. They flew in close proximity, and their relative position changed repeatedly with each helicopter taking turns in the lead and trail position, while separation between the helicopters varied from a few hundred meters to considerably less as they proceeded northwest in the direction of Eura aerodrome. Just before the collision, ES-ETR was positioned to the left of OE-XOS. When overhead the aerodrome, ES-ETR made a right-hand turn to north, while OE-XOS continued to track northwest.

The collision occurred at 1234 local time to the northeast of the runway at approximately 200 m above ground level. The tail boom of each helicopter separated on impact, and the main rotor systems disintegrated. Debris scattered over a large area in forested terrain north of the aerodrome. Post-crash fire consumed the fuselage of ES-ETR.

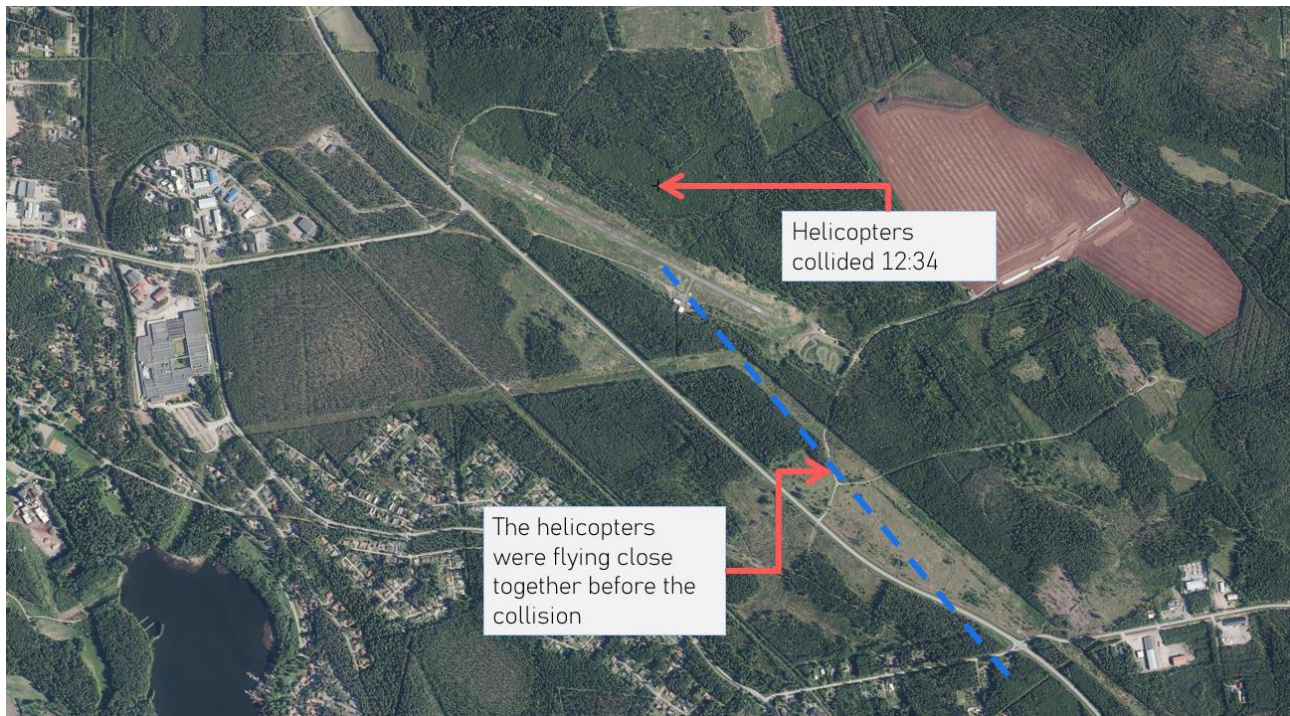


Figure 1. Aerial view of the accident location with the helicopters' track marked in blue. The red arrow indicates the collision point. (Aerial view: National Land Survey of Finland, annotations by SIAF)

INJURIES TO PERSONS

ES-ETR	Crew	Passengers	Others	Total
Fatal	1	2	-	3
Serious	-	-	-	-
Uninjured	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	-	3

OE-XOS	Crew	Passengers	Others	Total
Fatal	1	1	-	2
Serious	-	-	-	-
Uninjured	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	2

All five occupants of the helicopters sustained fatal injuries.

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

Aircraft type	Robinson R44	Robinson R44
State of registration	Estonia	Austria
Registration	ES-ETR	OE-XOS
Manufacturer's serial number	2805	2702
Airworthiness review certificate	Valid	Valid
Damage	Destroyed	Destroyed

OTHER INFORMATION

Fuel and oil leaked from the wreckages and caused soil contamination. The authorities and landowners were notified accordingly.

The Safety Investigation Authority Finland (SIAF) is continuing further examination of the wreckages as well as collision modelling and detailed track analysis. The SIAF is also reviewing airworthiness aspects and pilot-related factors. While the helicopters were not fitted with cockpit voice and flight data recorders, investigation of the memory circuits of other recording devices is ongoing.



Figure 2. Wreckage of ES-ETR. The fuselage with a section of the main rotor system (left), and the tail boom (right). The marking cone was placed by investigators. (Photo: SIAF)



Figure 3. Wreckage of OE-XOS. The fuselage (left), and the tail boom (right). (Photo: SIAF)