

Crash helicopter flights suspended

The company involved in a helicopter crash in the North Sea in which 16 people are believed to have been killed has grounded its *Super Puma* fleet. In February, 18 oil workers were rescued when another of the aircraft came down off north east Scotland

Super Puma AS-332L2



SPECIFICATIONS

- **First flight:** September 1978
- **Range:** 831km
- **Top speed:** 278km/h
- **Capacity:** 24
- **Maximum weight:** 8.6 tonnes
- **Operators:** 37 military forces and around 1,000 civil operators including police, land and sea rescue.
Bond – one of several companies that ferries oil workers from mainland to rigs – operates eight Super Puma flights from Aberdeen

ACCIDENT RECORD

- **Feb 2009:** Bond helicopter ditches near Marnock rig in North Sea, all 18 people survive. Poor visibility blamed
- **Jan 2009:** Two people killed in crash in Indonesia
- **Jul 2008:** Venezuelan Air Force helicopter crashes, killing five
- **Jan 2007:** Crash en route to offshore rig in Malaysia, one dead
- **Mar 1993:** Eleven killed when aircraft ditches after take-off from platform in North Sea
- **May 1989:** UK-operated helicopter crashes into hill in China, killing three