Alpes de Haute Provence

24 mars 2015
- AIRBUS A 320 GERMANWINGS.
- Fly BARCELONE – DÜSSELDORF.
- 150 passengers and crew members.
- Fly level 380.
- Beginning descent without clearance.
- No radio contact.
- No distress code.
- Hypothesis: pressure failure
TIMING
10:38 (local time)

- The Régional Navigation Center Sud-Est (Aix en Provence) calls the Rescue Coordination Center Lyon Mont-Verdun (RCC).
- Lost radio contact with Airbus A 320 GWI18G.
  - The plane's going down the level 164. Still on radar screen. A fly Barcelone – Düsseldorf. No display distress code. May be a pressure fail.
  - DETRESFA
10:40

The plane approaches 10000 ft in constant descent.
10:42

Loss of the plane on radar screen at 5600 ft / 1013.
10:43

- RCC calls Section Aérienne Gendarmerie Digne les Bains.
- Ask immédiat take off for supposed position of the crash A 320 D-AIPX.
- Initial site Barcelonnette.
- Coordinated and items will be transmitted.
10:45 – 10:53

Configuration of hélicopter

- 1 hour 40 of autonomy.
- Two rescues members PGHM 04.
- A doctor Codis 04 (Samu 04 is preparing a white plan – hospital organization).
10:47

- Codis 04 to RCC report two witnesses seeing a liner passing at low altitude with an explosion (site: Prads Haute Bléone).
- Rcc to Codis: one EC 145 SAG Digne les Bains + 1 Mirage 2000 Orange taking off.
10:53

- Hélicopter ready waiting for doctor.
- Sag Digne les Bains phones to RCC for informations.
- RCC : testimony (witness now on phone) from Codis and localisation Prads Haute Bléone.
10:56 – 10:59

- Starting.
- Doctor arrives.
11:00

- Take off.
- Climbing 5000 ft, heading for point.
- Radio contact to RCC to report take off.
11:03

- Radio contact to RCC.
- On site in 4 minutes.
- Rcc information: a plane white striped red and yellow, nationality german, confirm registration: D-AIPX.
11:07

- On site: RAS!
- Contact RCC: coordinate: last radar echo.
- Lost plane: 5000 feet, heading 045, 150 passengers.
11:07 – 11:15

- heading 045.
- A rescue member sees grey smoke 500 meters on left.
11:07 – 11:15

- Quickly identified.
11:07 – 11:15

- Contact RCC via Mirage 2000.
- Coordinates of crash site.
- Identified with registration.
- Difficulties of site: steepness. One hour walking.
- Plane: pulverized.
11:15 – 11:35

- Hélicopter winching rescue team.
- Human fragments located by crew.
- First report with no chance to find survivors.
11:35

Landing above the site

Radio contact with rescue team.
11:35 – 12:00

Phone report:

- RCC
- Codis 04.
- Groupement des Alpes de Haute Provence.
- Préfecture 04.
- Description of site
- No survivors located
15 heures

- Landing Seyne les Alpes.
- Integrated into Gendarmerie system.