EASA

NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE AN AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE



PAD No.: 10-105

Date: 29 September 2010

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 on behalf of the European Community, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation closing date indicated.

Type/Model designation(s): Type Approval Holder's Name: RTM 322-01/9 and RTM 322-01/9A ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd turboshaft engines TCDS Number: **EASA E.009** Foreign AD: Not applicable Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2010-0114-E dated 14 June 2010. **Engine - M01 Compressor - Second Stage Compressor Axial ATA 72** Wheel and Impeller - Inspection Manufacturer(s): Rolls-Royce Turbomeca Ltd Applicability: RTM 322-01/9 and RTM 322-01/9A turboshaft engines, all serial numbers. These engines are known to be installed on, but not limited to, NH Industries NH90 (military) helicopters. There have been three incidents on RTM 322-01/9 and RTM 322-01/9A Reason: turboshaft engines installed in NH90 helicopters, causing two engine In-Flight Shut-Downs (IFSD) and one engine Shut-Down on ground. Strip inspections of the involved engines showed similar damage in all three cases. - Second stage compressor axial wheel: cracks on adjacent blades or partial/complete loss of adjacent blades. - Impeller: crack and/or partial loss of one leading edge fragment. Such damage, if not detected and corrected, could lead to further in-flight shutdowns. For the reason stated above, EASA EAD 2010-0114-E required repetitive

EASA Form 112 Page 1/4

blade tips was detected.

borescope inspections of the second stage compressor axial wheel and centrifugal impeller. Furthermore, it precluded further engine operation if any evidence of cracks anywhere on blades and/or rubs on axial wheel Following issuance of EASA AD 2010-0114-E, Rolls Royce Turbomeca Ltd has completed further investigations and the results show that the most probable scenario explaining blade cracks/rupture is as follows:

- Compressor blade tip rubbing on compressor casing potentially generates a crack (possibly leading to blade rupture).
- This blade tip rubbing is the result of gas generator spool bending due to extended stator lab seal rubbing which causes local overheating on curvic-couplings.

The crack initiation is believed to occur during engine start, resulting in a hung start below ground Idle.

- Note 1: "hung start" is called "stagnation at start" in the referenced ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletins and defined in Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletin SBP-M3-A-71-00-00-05A-A-A as follows:
 - T46 increase, confirming combustion chamber light-off, and
 - engine stabilises at a constant speed below 50% NG and at constant T46 for more than 10 seconds.

"Hung start" as used herein implies these same characteristics.

Based on the above scenario, this AD, which supersedes EASA AD 2010-0114-E, partially retaining its requirements, requires checking the engine records to determine if a hung start occurred during the life of the engine, and, depending on the outcome of the record checks, accomplishment of repetitive borescope inspections. Furthermore, it precludes further engine operation in the event of a hung start, or if any evidence of cracks anywhere on blades and/or rubs on axial wheel blade tips is detected. This AD also requires the accomplishment of the applicable corrective actions.

Effective Date:

[TBD: 14 days after final AD issue date]

Required action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) Within 10 days after the effective date of this AD, check the engine records to identify any hung start occurrence in the engine operational history.
- (2) If a hung start is found, engine operation is not allowed. Contact the engine manufacturer for further instructions and accomplish them accordingly.
- (3) If a hung start is experienced after the effective date of this AD, engine operation is not allowed. Contact the engine manufacturer for further instructions and accomplish them accordingly.
- (4) Within the applicable compliance time as indicated in the table of the Appendix to this AD, accomplish a borescope inspection of the second stage compressor axial wheel and impeller, and inspect each second stage compressor axial wheel blade tip, in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletin SBP-M3-A-72-31-00-05A-A-A.
- (5) Repeat the borescope inspection of the second stage compressor axial wheel and impeller, and the inspection of each second stage axial wheel blade tip, at the intervals described in the table of the Appendix to this AD and in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions of ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletin SBP-M3-A-72-31-00-05A-A-A.
- (6) If the results of the inspections required by this AD show signs of

EASA Form 112 Page 2/4

	blade tip rubs or blade cracks, engine operation is not allowed. Contact the engine manufacturer for further instructions and accomplish them accordingly. (7) Any Compressor Module (M01) installed in an engine after the effective date of this AD must comply with the requirements of this AD.
Ref. Publications:	ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletin SBP-M3-A-72-31-00-05A-A-A Issue number 002. ROLLS-ROYCE TURBOMECA Ltd Emergency Mandatory Service Bulletin SBP-M3-A-71-00-00-05A-A-A Issue number 001. The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.
Remarks :	 This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 27 October 2010. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, Certification Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: your usual or nearest TURBOMECA technical representative (refer to http://www.turbomeca-support.com).

EASA Form 112 Page 3/4

APPENDIX to EASA PAD 10-105

Records show that the engine has not experienced a hung start during a continuous period **ending at the effective date** of this AD. During that continuous period, the engine accumulated X EFH (Engine Flight Hours) and Y ES (Engine Starts). The beginning of the continuous period may be before entry into service, taking into account bench pass-off test and helicopter/engine history, provided that relevant records exist. If no relevant records exist, or if the engine has not been in service since new or since last repair, then X = 0 and Y = 0.

of it the engine has not been in service since new or since last repair, then X = 0 and Y = 0.			
Engine History	Initial Inspection	Repetitive Inspection Intervals	
X ≤ 25 or Y ≤ 20	As applicable, either: within 5 EFH or 4 ES from the last inspection performed in accordance with EASA AD 2010-0114-E, whichever occurs first; or: if no inspections were performed in accordance with EASA AD 2010-0114-E, within 5 EFH or 4 ES after 16 June 2010 (the effective date of EASA AD 2010-0114-E), whichever occurs first	Not exceeding 5 EFH or 4 ES, whichever occurs first, until the engine accumulates both (25-X) EFH and (20-Y) ES after the effective date of this AD. Then not exceeding 30 EFH or 25 ES, whichever occurs first, until the engine accumulates both (115-X) EFH and (100-Y) ES after the effective date of this AD. Thereafter, no further inspection is required for compliance with the requirements of this AD.	
X > 25 <u>and</u> Y > 20	As applicable, either: within 30 EFH or 25 ES from the last inspection performed in accordance with EASA AD 2010-0114-E, whichever occurs first; or: if no inspections were performed in accordance with EASA AD 2010-0114-E, within 30 EFH or 25 ES after 16 June 2010 (the effective date of EASA AD 2010-0114-E), whichever occurs first	Not exceeding 30 EFH or 25 ES, whichever occurs first, until the engine accumulates both (115-X) EFH and (100-Y) ES after the effective date of this AD. Thereafter, no further inspection is required for compliance with the requirements of this AD.	

- Note 2: The parameters X and Y are introduced to allow credit for a continuous period, ending at the effective date of this AD, during which no hung starts were recorded.
- Note 3: 115 EFH / 100 ES is the maximum usage following a hung start, presumed unrecorded, during which the symptoms identified by the borescope inspections are expected to develop. Thereafter, it is assumed that no unrecorded hung start occurred or will occur.

EASA Form 112 Page 4/4