



**Airworthiness  
Directive  
1998-389**

**Luftfahrt-Bundesamt**  
Airworthiness Directive Section  
Hermann-Blenk-Str. 26  
38108 Braunschweig  
Federal Republic of Germany

**Eurocopter Deutschland**

**Effective Date: September 14, 1998**

**Affected:**

Kind of aeronautical product:	Helicopter
Manufacturer:	Eurocopter Deutschland, Ottobrunn, Germany
Type:	EC 135
Models affected:	all
Serial numbers affected:	0001 up to 0074
German Type Certificate No.:	3061

**Subject:**

Fuselage - Tail Boom - Replacement of Bearing Supports

**Reason:**

Some of the bearing supports on the tail boom were found to be out of alignment and/or not perpendicular to the drive shaft axis. In addition, a number of the current bearing supports have proved to be susceptible to corrosion and cracking. The replacement of the current single bearing supports by double bearing supports for the drive shaft axis, will ensure stress-free installation and, consequently, improved support of the tail rotor drive shafts. Furthermore, the tail boom will be fitted with struts to reduce the vibrational loads.

**Action/Compliance:**

According to this AD, the following actions must be taken:

Replacement of the bearing supports and installation of the struts in the tail boom not later than December 31, 1998.

A first time inspection must be carried out 50 flight hours after installation of the bearing supports and the struts and then every 50 flight hours until further notice. The bolts of the bearing supports have to be retightened 14 days after installation of the new bearing supports (one time action).

**Technical publication of the manufacturer:**

Eurocopter Deutschland Alert Service Bulletin No. EC 135-53A-004 dated August 08, 1998 is part of this AD. This publication can be obtained from Messrs.:

Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH  
Postfach  
81663 München  
Federal Republic of Germany

**Accomplishment and log book entry:**

Action to be accomplished by an approved service station and to be checked and entered in the log book by a licensed inspector.

**Holders of German registered kind of aeronautical product as a.m. must taken account:**

As a result of the a.m. deficiencies, the airworthiness of the aircraft is affected to such an extent that after the expiry of the a.m. dates the aircraft may be operated only after proper accomplishment of the prescribed actions. In the interest of aviation safety outweighing the interest of the receiver in a postponement of the prescribed actions, the immediate compliance with this AD is to be directed

**Instructions about Available Legal Remedies:**

An appeal to this notice may be raised within a period of one month following notification. Appeals must be submitted in writing or registered at the Luftfahrt-Bundesamt, Hermann-Blenk-Str. 26, 38108 Braunschweig.