



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2008 – 87
Issued: 12 December 2008

Subject: Detailed Inspection of Tail Rotor Damper spherical bearings for condition, damage and play.

Ref. Publication: AgustaWestland Information Letter No. AW139-08-006 dated 21 November 2008.

Description: The TC Holder AgustaWestland has received evidence from the field that improper application of the Aircraft Maintenance Planning Information (AMPI) Chapter 04 Certification Maintenance Requirement CM64-01 may lead to tail rotor damper rod end seizure.

The task CM64-01, belonging to the Certification Maintenance Requirements (CMR) in Chapter 4 of the AMPI, has to be satisfied by recording the exact values of the Tail Rotor Damper bearing play and by following thoroughly the instructions contained in AMP Data Module 39-A-64-21-00-00A-286A-A, therefore avoiding qualitative methods.

AgustaWestland recommends using local means (electronic/paper tables) to keep track of the values measured during the inspection, information that remains available to the operators for historical record keeping purposes.

The purpose of the inspection is, indeed, to guarantee that the bearing is in the condition to work properly in its seat, in order to ensure the correct load path on the damper rod end. The design tolerances and the admitted values on allowable play of the Tail Rotor Damper rod end bearing have been established in order to ensure this correct functioning.

EASA recommendation:

It is pointed out the importance of accomplishing the task CM64-01 in accordance with AgustaWestland Aircraft Maintenance Publication (AMP) procedure 39-A-64-21-00-00A-286A-A.

Applicability: All AgustaWestland AW 139 helicopters.

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