



EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued pursuant to Canadian Aviation Regulation (CAR) 521.427. No person shall conduct a take-off or permit a take-off to be conducted in an aircraft that is in their legal custody and control, unless the requirements of CAR 605.84 pertaining to ADs are met. Standard 625 - Aircraft Equipment and Maintenance Standards Appendix H provides information concerning alternative means of compliance (AMOC) with ADs.

Number:

CF-2025-17

Effective Date:

20 March 2025

ATA:

25

Type Certificate:

H-112

Subject:

Equipment/Furnishings – Aft Moveable Ballast Box Assembly Door Hinge Failure

Applicability:

Bell Textron Canada Limited (Bell) model 505 helicopters, serial numbers 65011 and subsequent with ballast kit Part Number (P/N) SLS-706-201-007 installed.

Compliance:

As indicated below, unless already accomplished.

Background:

Bell has discovered possible plastic deformation and/or improper pin engagement in the knuckles of the door hinge on the aft movable ballast box assembly (P/N: SLS-706-201-007). Ballast weights escaping the ballast box have a high potential of striking the tail rotor assembly, resulting in damage and/or departure of tail rotor blades, loss of tail rotor thrust, and severe vibrations that would lead to loss of control of the helicopter.

Bell has published Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 505-25-44, original issue, dated 14 March 2025, advising to immediately cease use of ballast weights in the aft ballast box as an interim measure to address this unsafe condition.

The corrective actions in this AD are an interim action and further AD action may follow.

Corrective Actions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definition apply:

The applicable ASB: Bell ASB 505-25-44 Original release, dated 14 March 2025, or later revisions approved by the Chief, Continuing Airworthiness, Transport Canada.

1. Before further flight, remove ballast weights in accordance with the accomplishment instructions in the applicable ASB.
2. As of the effective date of this AD, the use of the ballast weights within the aft movable ballast box assembly P/N SLS-706-201-007, is prohibited.

Authorization:

For the Minister of Transport,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Jenny Young
Chief, Continuing Airworthiness
Issued on 19 March 2025

Contact:

Ryan Anderson, Continuing Airworthiness, Ottawa, telephone 888-663-3639, facsimile 613-996-9178 or e-mail TC.AirworthinessDirectives-Consignesdenavigabilite.TC@tc.gc.ca or any Transport Canada Centre.

SUPERSEDED