



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0049

Issued: 10 March 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

AS 332 and EC 225 LP helicopters

Effective Date: 24 March 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 56 – Windows – Jettisoning system – Installation

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale)

Applicability:

AS 332 C, AS 332 C1, AS 332 L, AS 332 L1, AS 332 L2 and EC 225 LP helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason:

An occurrence was reported, experiencing difficulty in jettisoning a window, requiring the application of high pushing force. Subsequent investigation determined that the associated window seal was in a good condition with no indication of contamination with paint or hardening. Excessive friction between the window seal and the helicopter airframe was identified to be the root cause of the failure mode.

This condition, if not corrected, could prevent the jettisoning of a helicopter window, possibly affecting the evacuation of passengers during an emergency situation.

To address this potentially unsafe condition, Airbus Helicopters issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. EC225-05A046 and ASB No. AS332-05.01.05 (hereafter collectively referred to as “the applicable ASB” in this AD) to provide modification instructions, reducing friction between the window frame and the jettisonable window.



For the reasons described above, this AD requires installation of Polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) skived film on the window frame.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Within the compliance time defined in the paragraph 1.E.2 of the applicable ASB, depending on the operational environment, and, thereafter, during each installation or replacement of a jettisonable window, install PTFE skived film on the affected window frame in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus Helicopters ASB EC225-05A046 original issue, dated 08 March 2016.

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-05.01.05 original issue, dated 08 March 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact:
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