



Emergency Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0263-E

Issued: 22 December 2016

Note: This Emergency 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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AW 189 helicopters

Effective Date: 24 December 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.510

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment & Furnishings – Emergency Flotation System – Inspection / Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters (formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A., AgustaWestland S.p.A.)

Applicability:

Leonardo AW189 helicopters equipped with the Emergency Flotation System (EFS) listed in Appendix 1 of this AD, except EFS on which Aero Sekur Service Bulletin SB-189-25-003 has already been accomplished (SB-189-25-003 marked on component identification label and on component log card).

Reason:

During the first scheduled maintenance of an EFS kit, float bags have been found punctured. Further investigation determined that the damage was caused by protruding parts of the pressure relief/topping valves which were found not adequately protected.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to partial loss of buoyancy of EFS float bags, possibly resulting in injury to crew and/or passengers in a ditching event.



To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo issued Bollettino Tecnico (BT) 189-135 providing instructions for inspection and modification of the EFS. This BT also introduces improved parts which reduce the risk of damage to the float bags.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time detailed inspection of affected EFS, repair in case of findings, and a modification of the equipment to include the new valve protections.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within the compliance time as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable to helicopter operation, accomplish a detailed inspection of the EFS for damage in accordance with the instructions of Leonardo BT 189-135.

Table 1 – EFS inspection

Type of helicopter operation	Compliance time (after the effective date of this AD)
Overwater operation above sea state 4	Within 15 flight hours (FH) or 10 days, whichever occurs first
Overwater operation up to sea state 4	Within 120 FH or 60 days, whichever occurs first

Corrective action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any damage is found, before next flight, repair the EFS in accordance with the instructions of Leonardo BT 189-135.

Modification:

- (3) Concurrently with the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, or with accomplishment of the corrective action(s) as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, as applicable, modify the EFS in accordance with the instructions of Leonardo BT 189-135.

Parts installation:

- (4) From the effective date of this AD, installation on a helicopter of an affected EFS kit, as listed in Appendix 1 of this AD, is allowed, provided that, prior to installation, the kit is inspected, corrected depending on findings, and modified in accordance with the instructions of Leonardo BT 189-135, or Aero Sekur SB-189-25-003.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 189-135 original issue, dated 20 December 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this document 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. The results of the safety assessment have indicated the need for immediate publication and notification, without the full consultation process.
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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters E-mail: PSE_AW189.MBX@leonardocompany.com.



Appendix 1 – Affected EFS Kits

Location	P/N	s/n
Float assembly LH FWD	8G9560V00131	prior to s/n 067
Float assembly LH aft	8G9560V00331	prior to s/n 069
Float assembly RH FWD	8G9560V00231	prior to s/n 069
Float assembly RH aft	8G9560V00431	prior to s/n 068

