



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0097

Issued: 07 June 2017

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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AB412 helicopters

Effective Date: 14 June 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.114

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 32 – Landing Gear – High Skid Landing Gear Aft Crosstubes – Life Limit

Manufacturer(s):

AgustaWestland S.p.A. (formerly Agusta S.p.A., Costruzioni Aeronautiche Giovanni Agusta)

Applicability:

AB412 and AB412EP helicopters, all serial numbers, if equipped with high skid landing gear assemblies, Part Number (P/N) 412-050-012-(XXX), or P/N 412-050-014-(XXX), or P/N 412-050-050-(XXX), or P/N 412-050-059-(XXX), where 'XXX' represents any 3-digit combination.

Reason:

Following a fatigue review, it has been determined that a life limit must be introduced for certain high skid landing gear aft crosstubes.

Failure to comply with the new life limit could lead to the failure of the part, possibly resulting in damage of the helicopter and injuries to passengers.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo Helicopters issued Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 412-151 (hereafter referred to as "the ASB" in this AD), later revised, providing instructions to replace affected parts before exceeding the life limit. A consistent revision of the applicable Airworthiness Limitation is expected to be issued.



For the reasons described above, this AD requires implementation of the new life limit and revision of the Aircraft Maintenance Program.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Note 1: For the purpose of this AD, an “affected part” is a high landing gear aft crosstube having P/N 412-050-010-101, or P/N 412-050-010-107, or P/N 412-050-010-111 or P/N 412-050-045-107.

Note 2: For the purpose of this AD, a serviceable part is an affected part (see Note 1 of this AD) having accumulated less than 10 000 landings (ldgs) since first installation on a helicopter.

Part Replacement (Life Limit):

- (1) From the effective date of this AD, replace each affected part with a serviceable part before it exceeds 10 000 ldgs since first installation on a helicopter (see Note 3 of this AD), in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Note 3: In case no information is available to determine the ldgs accumulated by a part, the ldgs of that part can be calculated by multiplying by 4 the flight hours (FH) accumulated by that part since first installation on a helicopter.

Inspection / Deferral of Replacement:

- (2) For an affected part having accumulated, on the effective date of this AD, 9 900 ldgs or more since first installation on a helicopter (see Note 3 of this AD), the replacement of that part, as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, can be deferred up to 25 FH or 100 ldgs, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, provided that, before that part exceeds 10 000 ldgs since first installation on a helicopter, or within 20 ldgs after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, that part passes an inspection in accordance with the instructions of Part II of the ASB.

Part Installation:

- (3) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected part (see Note 1 of this AD) on a helicopter, provided that part is serviceable (see Note 2 of this AD).

Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) Revision:

- (4) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved AMP, on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated helicopter, by incorporating the requirement of paragraph (1) of this AD.

Recording AD compliance

- (5) When the AMP of a helicopter has been revised as required by paragraph (4) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures (see Note 4 of this AD) continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that helicopter. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (4) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual action is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.



Note 4: For affected AB412 and AB412EP helicopters registered in Europe, complying with the approved AMP, as specified in paragraph (4) of this AD, as applicable, is required by Commission Regulation (EU) [1321/2014](#), Part M.A.301, paragraph 3.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters Emergency ASB 412-151 original issue dated 31 May 2017, or revision A dated 05 June 2017.

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. 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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, Customer Support & Services
Product Support Engineering DPT, via Giovanni Agusta 520,
21017 Cascina Costa di Samarate (VA) – Italy
Tel.: +39 0331 711439, Fax: +39 0331 225988,
E-mail: absereng.AW@leonardocompany.com.

