



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0255

Issued: 22 December 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):

AW169 helicopters

Effective Date: 29 December 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.509

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 32 – Landing Gear – Main Landing Gear Weight on Wheels Support Bracket – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. (formerly Finmeccanica Helicopter Division, AgustaWestland)

Applicability:

AW169 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n), if equipped with a left-hand (LH) main landing gear (MLG) assembly having Part Number (P/N) 6F3210V00132 or P/N 6F3210V00133 and a s/n from MN01 to MN84 inclusive, and/or a right-hand (RH) MLG assembly having P/N 6F3210V00232 or P/N 6F3210V00233 and a s/n from MN01 to MN81 inclusive, except if Magnaghi Aeronautica SB-07-2017-AW169 has been embodied on that MLG.

Reason:

An in-service event revealed that an inappropriately tightened Weight on Wheels (WoW) support could result in a rotation of this support and improper WoW switch performance.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to degraded attitude stabilisation of the helicopter in flight, possibly resulting in reduced control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 169-047, introducing a design modification that prevents loosening of the WoW support.



For the reason described above, this AD requires modification of the WoW support installation by introducing structural glue between the WoW support and the main fitting of the MLG.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

- (1) Within 60 flight hours or 3 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, modify the WoW support of left and right MLG assemblies in accordance with the instructions of Part I of Leonardo ASB 169-047.

Parts Installation:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, installation on any helicopter of a LH MLG assembly P/N 6F3210V00132 or P/N 6F3210V00133 with a s/n from MN01 to MN84 inclusive, or RH MLG assembly P/N 6F3210V00232 or P/N 6F3210V00233 with a s/n from MN01 to MN81 inclusive, is allowed, provided that, prior to installation, WoW support modification of that MLG is accomplished in accordance with the instructions of Part II of Leonardo ASB 169-047, or Magnaghi Aeronautica SB-07-2017-AW169.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo ASB 169-047 original issue, dated 19 December 2017.

Magnaghi Aeronautica SB-07-2017-AW169 issue 4, dated 12 October 2017, or issue 5, dated 22 November 2017.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, Customer Support & Services, Product Support Engineering & Licenses DPT, Via Giovanni Agusta 520, 21017 Cascina Costa di Samarate (VA) – Italy, Telephone: +39 0331 255036, Fax: +39 0331 225988, E-mail: PSE_AW169.MBX.AW@leonardocompany.com.

