



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0065

Issued: 23 March 2018

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):

SA 330 helicopters

Effective Date: 30 March 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Main Gearbox / Particle Detectors – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aérospatiale)

Applicability:

SA 330 J helicoptes, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: Airbus Helicopters (AH) Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) SA330-05.103.

ALF: After last flight of the day (ALF) inspection.

Reason:

Investigation prompted by an EC 225 helicopter accident revealed involvement of a failure of a second stage planet gear of the Main Gearbox (MGB).

AH is reviewing its entire range of helicopters in regard to this particular issue.

As a precautionary measure, AH issued the ASB, applicable to SA 330 J helicopters, providing updated inspection intervals and particle assessment criteria, aligning the SA 330 J particle inspection to the standards set for EC 225 LP/AS 332 L2 helicopters.



For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the MGB particle detector and, depending on findings, analysis of particles found and accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspections / Analyses:

- (1) From the effective date of this AD, during each ALF inspection, or at intervals not to exceed 10 flight hours, whichever occurs first, inspect the MGB particle detector in accordance with the instructions of Section 3 of the ASB.
- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, particles are detected, before next flight, analyse the particles in accordance with the instructions of Appendix 4.A. of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (3) If, during any analysis as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, particles are detected which exceed the limits specified in Appendix 4.A. of the ASB, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of Appendix 4.A. of the ASB.

Terminating Action:

- (4) None.

Parts Installation:

- (5) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an MGB assembly on any helicopter, provided that, following installation, it is inspected as required by this AD.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB SA330-05.103 original issue dated 20 March 2018.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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: Airbus Helicopters (EBSSEB) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane



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Superseded

