



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0140R1

Issued: 14 February 2024

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

AS 332 and EC 225 helicopters

Effective Date: 28 February 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA Emergency AD 2018-0140-E dated 29 June 2018.

ATA 25 – Equipment & Furnishings – Hoist – Removal

ATA 52 – Doors – Cabin Sliding Plug Doors / Emergency Jettisoning System – Rotorcraft Flight Manual Amendment / Placard Installation

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), 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.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: AH AS 332 Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 01.00.89 and EC 225 ASB 04A014 (single document) Revision 1, as applicable to helicopter model.

The SB: AH Service Bulletin (SB) AS332-52.00.43 or EC225-52-008, as applicable.

The modification SB: AH SB AS332-25.03.90, AS332-25.03.89, AS332-25.03.88, EC225-25A277 or EC225-25A278, as applicable.



Groups: Group 1 helicopters are those equipped with a hoist arm, and have a right-hand (RH) side lateral sliding plug door installed that has embodied either AH production modification (mod) 0726841, or the SB.

Group 2 helicopters are those equipped with a hoist arm, but the RH side lateral sliding plug door does not embody AH mod 0726841, nor the SB.

Reason:

During a scheduled jettison test of the RH side lateral sliding plug door an interference between the hoist arm and the sliding plug door median fitting (reinforced bracket) was identified. In consequence, the sliding plug door remained blocked between the hoist, airframe, and access step. The reinforced bracket was introduced through AH mod 0726841, and this mod was required by EASA AD 2015-0167, using the SB.

This condition, if not corrected, could prevent jettisoning the RH sliding plug door in an emergency situation, thereby obstructing evacuation, possibly resulting in injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB to provide appropriate instructions.

For the reason described above, EASA issued Emergency AD 2018-0140-E, to require removal of the hoist arm and to introduce an alternative method of compliance by amending the applicable RFM and installation of a placard prohibiting the use of the jettison system of the RH side lateral sliding plug door.

Since this AD was issued, AH developed modifications to eliminate the interference between the hoist arm (if installed) and the RH lateral sliding plug door median fitting allowing unobstructed jettisoning of that door and issued the modification SBs.

For the reasons described above EASA AD 2018-0140-E is revised to introduce optional modification.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the actions required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Hoist Removal:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 10 flight hours (FH) after the 03 July 2018 [the effective date of the AD 2018-0140-E], remove the hoist arm in accordance with the instructions of the paragraph 3.B.2.a of the ASB.
- (2) For Group 2 helicopters: Concurrent with modification of a helicopter in accordance with the SB (reinforcement of the side sliding plug door median fitting), remove the hoist arm in accordance with the instructions of the paragraph 3.B.2.a of the ASB.

Acceptable Alternative Method of Compliance:

- (3) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: In case operations require use of hoist, as an alternative to the action required by paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, within the same compliance time, as



applicable, accomplish the actions specified in paragraphs (3.1) and (3.2) of this AD, notify all flight crews and, thereafter, operate the helicopter accordingly.

- (3.1) Amend the normal and emergency procedures of the applicable RFM by inserting a copy of RFM amendment listed in Appendix 4 of the ASB. Introducing a later revision of the RFM that includes these instructions is an acceptable method to comply with the requirements of paragraph (3.1) of this AD.
- (3.2) Install black masking labels and placards in the cabin and on the external surface of the fuselage and in the cockpit, as applicable, prohibiting use of the jettison system of the RH side lateral sliding plug door in accordance with the instructions of the paragraph 3.B.2.b of the ASB.

Credit:

- (4) Removal of the hoist arm or amendment of the RFM, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of the original issue of AS 332 ASB 01.00.89 or EC 225 ASB 04A014, as applicable, are acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2) or (3.1) of this AD for that helicopter.

Optional Modification:

- (5) Helicopters which have been modified in accordance with the instructions of the modification SB are no longer affected by the requirements of paragraph (1), (2) and (3) of this AD, provided the helicopter remains in that configuration (see Note 1 to this AD).

Note 1: After embodiment of the modification SB, it is allowed to reinstall the hoist; or restore RFM and remove black masking labels and placards, previously installed, and implemented as required by paragraph (1), (2) or (3) of this AD, as applicable.

Ref. Publications:

AH AS 332 ASB 01.00.89 and EC 225 ASB 04A014 (single document), original issue dated 07 June 2018 and Revision 1 dated 28 June 2018, Revision 2 dated 21 January 2021, or Revision 3 dated 02 November 2023.

AH SB AS332-52.00.43 original issue dated 23 June 2015.

AH SB EC225-52-008 original issue dated 23 June 2015.

AH SB AS332-25.03.90 original issue dated 02 November 2023.

AH AS332-25.03.89 original issue dated 02 November 2023.

AH AS332-25.03.88 original issue dated 02 November 2023.

AH EC225-25A277 original issue dated 02 November 2023.

AH EC225-25A278 original issue dated 02 November 2023.



The use of later approved revisions of 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. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (EBSESB) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence 13725 Marignane Cedex, France, Telephone +33 (4) 42 85 97 97; Fax +33 (4) 42 85 99 66; E-mail: Directive.technical-support@airbus.com.

