

# Airworthiness Directive AD No.: 2024-0133R1 Issued: 27 June 2025

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 350 helicopters

Effective Date: Revision 1: 11 July 2025 Original issue: 17 July 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.008

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2024-0133 dated 10 July 2024, which superseded DGAC France AD F-1984-064-037R3 dated 02 February 1994 and EASA AD 2021-0194R1 dated 08 October 2021.

# ATA 04 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Airworthiness Limitations Section – Amendment

# Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale

# Applicability:

AS 350 B, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 B1 and AS 350 D helicopters, all serial numbers.

# **Definitions:**

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

**The applicable ALS**: AH AS 350 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Chapter 04, Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) Revision 009.

**The AMP**: The Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) contains the tasks on the basis of which the scheduled maintenance is conducted to ensure the continuing airworthiness of each operated aircraft. For aircraft operated under EU regulations, the operator or the owner ensures compliance with the AMP as stipulated in Commission Regulation (EU) <u>1321/2014</u>.



**New and/or more restrictive tasks**: This includes all tasks and limitations that are new or for which a threshold and/or interval was reduced, which were introduced into the applicable ALS (as defined in this AD) since the previous ALS revision that is currently incorporated in the AMP.

#### Reason:

The airworthiness limitations for AS 350 helicopters, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in the AH AS 350 documents. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

EASA previously issued AD 2021-0194R1, requiring the actions described in AH AS 350 and EC 130 AMM Chapter 04, ALS at Revision 006 for AS 350 B, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 D and AS 350 B1, Revision 013 for AS 350 B2 and AS 350 B3 helicopters, Revision 012 for EC 130 B4 helicopters and Revision 010 for EC 130 T2 helicopters. EASA also published AD 2021-0282 to require checks of tail rotor head spider pitch change unit and consequent marking alignments on it, AD 2022-0150 to require repetitive inspections of certain tail rotor blades on EC 130 helicopters, and AD 2012-0257-E to require repetitive inspections of the tail rotor laminated half-bearings and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective actions.

Since those ADs were issued, AH published the updated ALS documents, which contained new and/or more restrictive tasks and included repetitive checks and inspections requirements for AS 350 and EC 130 helicopters addressed by EASA AD 2021-0282, EASA AD 2022-0150 and EASA AD 2012-0257-E. Those ALS documents also took over the requirements of DGAC France AD F-1984-064-037R3.

Consequently, EASA published the original issue of this AD, retaining the requirements of DGAC France AD F-1984-064-037R3 and EASA AD 2021-0194R1, which were superseded, partially taking over the requirements of EASA AD 2021-0282, EASA AD 2022-0150 and EASA AD 2012-0257-E (applicable to AS 350 and AS 355 helicopters), and requiring accomplishment of the actions specified in those ALS documents.

Since the original issue of this AD was issued, AH published new ALS documents, which contain new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations for AS 350 B2, AS 350 B3, EC 130 B4 and EC 130 T2 helicopters, and EASA issued AD 2025-0137 to require accomplishment of the actions specified in those ALS documents for those helicopters.

For the reason described above, this AD is revised to remove the AS 350 B2, AS 350 B3, EC 130 B4 and EC 130 T2 helicopters, and related referenced ALS documents, from its Applicability.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:



# Maintenance Tasks and Replacement of Life Limited Parts:

- (1) From 17 July 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], accomplish the following actions, as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration:
  - (1.1) Replace each component before exceeding the applicable life limit, and
  - (1.2) Within the thresholds and intervals as defined in the applicable ALS, accomplish all applicable maintenance tasks.

#### Corrective Action(s):

(2) In case of finding discrepancies (as defined in the applicable ALS) during accomplishment of any task as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, within the compliance time specified in the applicable ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the applicable AH maintenance documentation. If no compliance time is identified in the applicable ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) before next flight. If a detected discrepancy is not identified in the applicable ALS, before next flight, contact AH for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

#### AMP Revision:

(3) Within 12 months after 17 July 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], revise the approved AMP by incorporating the limitations, tasks and associated thresholds and intervals described in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration.

#### Credit:

(4) If, before 17 July 2024 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], the AMP has been revised to incorporate the maintenance tasks and life limitations as specified in a previous revision of the AH AMMs Chapter 04 ALS, that action ensures the continued accomplishment of those tasks and limitations.

Consequently, for a helicopter to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration, within the compliance times as specified in the applicable ALS to comply with paragraph (1) of this AD.

For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the applicable ALS, as applicable to helicopter model and depending on helicopter configuration, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (3) of this AD.

#### **Recording AD Compliance:**

(5) When the AMP of a helicopter has been revised as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for that helicopter. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (3) or (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.



#### **Ref. Publications:**

AH AS 350 B AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 009 dated 09 October 2023.

AH AS 350 B1 AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 009 dated 09 October 2023.

AH AS 350 BB AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 009 dated 09 October 2023.

AH AS 350 BA AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 009 dated 09 October 2023.

AH AS 350 D AMM Chapter 04 ALS Revision 009 dated 09 October 2023.

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.
- The original issue of this AD was posted on 17 June 2024 as PAD 24-068 for consultation until 01 July 2024. No comments were received during the consultation period.
- 3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: <u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>.
- 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 <u>EU aviation safety</u> reporting system. This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
- For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Customer Support, Telephone +33 (0)4.42.85.97.89, Fax + 33 (0)4.42.85.99.66, E-mail: <u>Airframe.Technical-Support@airbus.com</u>, Keycopter Technical Request Management: <u>TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com</u>.

