

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2024-0228

Issued: 29 November 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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AB412, A109E, A109K2, A109S, AB139, and AW139 helicopters

Effective Date: 06 December 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.006

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Hoist – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A, AgustaWestland S.p.A., Agusta S.p.A.; Costruzioni Aeronautiche Giovanni Agusta; and AgustaWestland Philadelphia Corporation, formerly Agusta Aerospace Corporation

Applicability:

AB412, AB412EP, A109E, A109K2, A109S, AB139 and AW139 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n).

Definitions:

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

The ASB: Leonardo Emergency Alert Service Bulletins (ASB) 412-178, ASB 109EP-188, ASB 109K-081, ASB 109S-125 and ASB 139-795, as applicable.

Affected part: Rescue hoist cable assembly as identified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable.

Table 1 – Rescue Hoist Cable Assembly

Helicopter Type / Model	Rescue Hoist Cable Assembly
AB139 and AW139	Part Number (P/N) BL6260, part of rescue hoist P/N 3G2591V00331 or 3G2591V01431; and rescue hoist cable assembly P/N BL-9149-8, part of rescue hoist 3G2591V00431
AB412 and AB412EP	P/N BL6260-(all dash) or P/N BL-9149-(all dash)
A109K2 and A109E	P/N BL6260 or P/N BL-6260
A109S	BL9149-3 or BL-9149-3

Affected rescue hoist: Any rescue hoist, as identified in Table 2 of this AD, either manufactured or repaired/overhauled by Breeze-Eastern's main facility in Whippany, New Jersey before 08 April 2024 and which have never replaced the rescue hoist cable since then.

Table 2 – Rescue Hoist

Helicopter Type	Rescue Hoist
AB139 and AW139	P/N 3G2591V00331, P/N 3G2591V01431 or P/N 3G2591V00431
AB412 and AB412EP	P/N BL10300-all dash, P/N BL20200-(all dash) or P/N BL-20200-(all dash)
A109K2 and A109E	P/N 109-0900-61-201 or P/N 109-0900-61-203
A109S	<p>P/N 109-0900-61-801 composed of Hoist P/N 109-0900-61-205 + Hook Breeze Eastern P/N HK-121-6;</p> <p>P/N 109-0900-61-803 composed of Hoist P/N 109-0900-61-205 + Hook Breeze Eastern P/N HK-116-5;</p> <p>P/N 109-0900-61-805 composed of Hoist P/N 109-0900-61-207 + Hook Breeze Eastern P/N HK-121-6;</p> <p>P/N 109-0900-61-807 composed of Hoist P/N 109-0900-61-207 + Hook Breeze Eastern P/N HK-116-5</p>

Groups: Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected rescue hoist installed. Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected rescue hoist installed.

Reason:

The manufacturer of the affected rescue hoist, Breeze-Eastern, reported that, due to a defect in the testing tool used in its plant in Whippany, certain rescue hoist cable assemblies may be equipped with a defective ball end.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to failure of the rescue hoist cable assembly, possibly resulting in injuries to a human load, or to persons on ground.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo published the ASB, providing inspection instructions.



For the reason described above, this AD requires accomplishment of a one-time inspection and, depending on findings, corrective actions. This AD also introduces conditions for installation of affected parts.

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:

Inspection:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Before next hoist operation after the effective date of this AD, inspect the affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as defined in the ASB, before next hoist operation, replace the affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB (see also paragraph (3) of this AD).

Part(s) Installation:

- (3) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected part on a helicopter, provided that it is new (never previously installed on a rescue hoist).
- (4) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected rescue hoist on a helicopter, provided its rescue hoist cable assembly passed the inspection (no discrepancy found) as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 139-795 original issue dated 27 November 2024.

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 412-178 original issue dated 27 November 2024.

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 109K-081 original issue dated 27 November 2024.

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 109EP-188 original issue dated 27 November 2024.

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 109S-125 original issue dated 27 November 2024.

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. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the AD Number, to the E-mail



address specified in below Remark 3, prior to 03 January 2025. Only if any comment is received during the consultation period, a Comment Response Document will be published in the [EASA Safety Publications Tool](#), in a compressed ('zipped') file, attached to the record for this AD.

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](#). 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.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, E-mail: engineering.support.lhd@leonardocompany.com.

Corrected

