



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2026-0192

Issued: 06 October 2026

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):

AW189 helicopters

Effective Date: 20 October 2026

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.510

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Tail Gearbox Fitting – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A., AgustaWestland S.p.A.

Applicability:

AW189 helicopters, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: Leonardo S.p.A. Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 189-432.

Affected part: Tail gearbox (TGB) fitting Part Number (P/N) 4F5350A04152 which on the effective date of this AD accumulated more than 1 000 flight hours (FH) since first flight.

Serviceable part: TGB fitting which is eligible for installation on a helicopter in accordance with Leonardo S.p.A. approved instruction that is new.

Groups:

Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected part installed.

Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected part installed.



Reason:

Cracking of the affected part was reported during accomplishment of a routine maintenance inspection of the adjacent area. Investigation attributed the crack to a mechanical damage of the anti-corrosion coating, that caused local corrosion and then fatigue crack initiation and propagation. The damage likely occurred during one of the previous maintenance operations.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to structural failure of the affected part, resulting in loss of helicopter control.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo S.p.A. issued the ASB to provide inspection instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the affected part and, depending on findings, contacting Leonardo S.p.A. for corrective action instructions. This AD also requires reporting to support the follow-on investigation.

This AD is considered an interim action, and further AD action may follow.

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(s):

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 25 flight hours (FH) after the effective date of this AD, inspect each affected part to detect cracks or corrosions in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, discrepancies are detected, as specified in the ASB, before next flight, contact Leonardo S.p.A. for approved corrective action instructions and, within the compliance time stated therein, accomplish those instructions accordingly. Using the Inspection Report Form attached to the ASB is an acceptable method to comply with the requirement to contact Leonardo S.p.A.

Reporting:

- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, no damage is detected, within 30 days after that inspection report the inspection result to Leonardo S.p.A. Using the Inspection Report Form attached to the ASB is an acceptable method to comply with the requirement to contact Leonardo S.p.A.

Part(s) Installation:

- (4) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install any TGB fitting on a helicopter, provided that it is a serviceable part.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. ASB 189-432 original issue dated 10 September 2026.



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. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the AD Number, to the E-mail address specified in below Remark 3, prior to 03 November 2026. 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.

