



Notification of a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 16-027

Issued: 18 February 2016

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) 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.

In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below.

All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation date indicated.

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS DEUTSCHLAND GmbH

Type/Model designation(s):

MBB-BK 117 and BO105 helicopters

Effective Date: [TBD - standard: 14 days after AD issue date]

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.010 and EASA.R.011

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2015-0166 dated 11 August 2015.

ATA 62 – Main Rotor – Swashplate Assembly – Replacement / Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) (formerly Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH, Eurocopter Hubschrauber GmbH, Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm GmbH), Airbus Helicopters Inc. (formerly American Eurocopter LLC), Eurocopter Canada Ltd. (formerly Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm Helicopter Canada Ltd.)

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 A-1, MBB-BK117 A-3, MBB-BK117 A-4, MBB-BK117 B-1, MBB-BK117 B-2, MBB-BK117 C-1, MBB-BK117 C-2 and MBB-BK117 C-2e helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n), and

BO105 A, BO105 C, BO105 D, BO105 S and BO105 LS A-3 (see note 1) helicopters, all variants, all s/n.

Note 1: BO105 LS A-3, post STC 10039633 (so called "Superlifter") are affected by this AD.

Reason:

During a post-flight check on a BO105 helicopter, it was detected that the lower clamp installed on the swashplate bellows was missing. Prior to this, the loose clamp had caused damage to the swashplate bearing ring. Similar cases had already been reported in the past. Investigation showed



that over-torquing can cause damage to the clamp, which may have contributed to the loosening and subsequent loss of the clamp.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to further cases of lost swashplate clamps, possibly resulting in loss of control of the helicopter.

To address this unsafe condition, AHD issued Alert Service Bulletins (ASB) MBB-BK117-40A-115, MBB-BK117C-2-62A-007, BO105-40A-107 and BO105LS-40A-12 (hereafter collectively referred to as “the applicable ASB” in this AD) to provide instructions for clamp replacement and for repetitive inspections. EASA issued AD 2014-0180 (later revised) to require replacement of swash-plate clamps with cable ties, repetitive inspections of cable ties for loose fit and replacement of cable ties with serviceable parts.

Since EASA AD 2014-0180R1 was issued, several reports were received of further separations of swashplate bellows, which were installed with the new cable ties. Prompted by these findings, AHD revised the ASBs to provide instructions for removal of the swashplate bellows and accomplishment of repetitive inspections. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2015-0166, partially retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2014-0180R1, which was superseded, and requiring removal of the swashplate bellows and accomplishment of repetitive inspections and, depending on findings, corrective actions.

Since that AD was issued, a modification was designed by AHD, which allows terminating the repetitive inspections. The existing four (4) ASBs were revised (now at Revision 3) accordingly to provide modification instructions. In addition, instructions applicable to STC-modified BO105 LS A-3 (so-called “Superlifter”) helicopters, previously available in the SB applicable to the BO105 LS A-3, were included in a new SB, ASB BO105 LS A-3-STC-0654/3058-40A-2. The applicable ASB at revision 3, and the ASB BO105 LS A-3-STC-0654/3058-40A-2 original issue, are hereafter collectively referred to as “the latest ASB” in this AD.

For the reasons described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2015-0166, which is superseded, and requires the installation of new swashplate bellows and deflection ring as terminating action.

MBB-BK117 C-2 and MBB-BK117 C-2e helicopters, serial number 9751 inclusive and up, are equipped since delivery with the new swashplate bellows and deflection ring, and are not affected by the repetitive inspections requirements of this AD.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Re-statement of the requirements of EASA AD 2015-0166:

Note 2: For the purpose of this AD, the affected clamps are identified by Part Number (P/N) MBB100-W3-5, P/N MBB270-W3-5, P/N NSA5528-100 and P/N NSA5528-250.

- (1) Within the compliance time as defined in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, replace each affected swashplate bellows clamp with cable ties in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB, at original issue or Revision 1.



Table 1 – Replacement of Swashplate Clamps

Helicopter Model(s)	Compliance Time (after 11 August 2014, the effective date of EASA AD 2014-0180 at original issue)
BO 105, all variants	Within 300 flight hours (FH) after the last periodical inspection, or during the next periodical inspection (see Note 3 of this AD), or within 6 months, whichever occurs first
MBB-BK 117 A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2 and C-1	
MBB-BK 117 C-2	During the next intermediate inspection (see Note 3 of this AD)

Note 3: For the applicable scheduled periodical inspection intervals, refer to the Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) for the affected helicopter model/variant.

- (2) Do not install on any helicopter an affected swashplate bellows clamp, or any gearbox or swashplate equipped with an affected clamp, as required by paragraph (2.1) or (2.2), as applicable.
 - (2.1) For a helicopter not equipped with affected clamps: From 11 August 2014 [the effective date of EASA AD 2014-0180 at original issue].
 - (2.2) For a helicopter equipped with affected clamps: After modification of the helicopter as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.
- (3) Within 400 FH or during the next scheduled 12 month inspection (see Note 4 of this AD), whichever occurs first after modification of a helicopter as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 400 FH, or during each scheduled 12 month inspection (see Note 4 of this AD), whichever occurs first, inspect the cable ties for loose fit in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB at original issue or Revision 1.
- (4) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any cable tie is found loose, before next flight, replace the loose cable tie with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB at original issue or Revision 1.
- (5) Within 50 FH, or during the next periodical inspection (see Note 3 of this AD), whichever occurs first after 25 August 2015 [the effective date of EASA AD 2015-0166], remove the swashplate bellows and perform inspections, in accordance with the instructions of section 3.B.1 of the applicable ASB at Revision 2.
- (6) Removal of the swashplate bellows from a helicopter as required by paragraph (5) of this AD is an acceptable method to comply with paragraphs (1) and (4) of this AD for that helicopter.
- (7) Modification of an helicopter as required by paragraph (5) of this AD constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraph (3) of this AD for that helicopter.
- (8) Within 100 FH after modification of an helicopter as required by paragraph (5) of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 100 FH (see Note 4 of this AD), inspect the swashplate in accordance with the instructions of section 3.B.2 of the applicable ASB at Revision 2.



Note 4: A non-cumulative tolerance of 10% may be applied to the compliance times specified in this AD to allow synchronization of the required inspections with other maintenance tasks for which a non-cumulative tolerance is already granted in the applicable AMM.

- (9) Within 400 FH after modification of an helicopter as required by paragraph (5) of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 400 FH (see Note 4 of this AD), inspect the swashplate in accordance with the instructions of section 3.B.3 of the applicable ASB at Revision 2.
- (10) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (5), (8) or (9) of this AD, as applicable, discrepancies are found, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB at Revision 2.
- (11) From 25 August 2015 [the effective date of EASA AD 2015-0166], do not install on any helicopter a cable tie P/N E0043-6COP.
- (12) From 25 August 2015 [the effective date of EASA AD 2015-0166], do not install on any helicopter a swashplate bellows P/N 105-10113.05 or P/N 4638305043.

New requirements of this AD:

- (13) Within 800 FH (see Note 4 of this AD) after the effective date of this AD, accomplish concurrently the actions as required by paragraphs (13.1) and (13.2) of this:
 - (13.1) Inspect the swashplate and, depending on finding, accomplish corrective actions, as applicable, in accordance with the instructions of the latest ASB, Appendix, sections 2.B.1 and 2.B.2. Accomplishment of an inspection and, depending on finding, corrective actions, as applicable, in accordance with the instructions of sections 3.B.2 and 3.B.3 of the applicable ASB at Revision 2 is acceptable to comply with this requirement.
 - (13.2) Install the outer deflection ring and the swashplate bellows in accordance with the instructions of section 3.B.2 of the latest ASB.
- (14) Modification of a helicopter as required by paragraph (13) of this AD constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraphs (8) and (9) of this AD for that helicopter.
- (15) After modification of a helicopter as required by paragraph (13) of this AD, do not install on that helicopter any swashplate bellows or swashplate, as identified by P/N in Appendix 1 of this AD, as applicable.

Ref. Publications:

AHD ASB MBB-BK117-40A-115 original issue dated 31 March 2014, or Revision 1 dated 04 August 2014, or Revision 2 dated 30 July 2015, or Revision 3 dated 8 February 2016.

AHD ASB MBB-BK117C-2-62A-007 original issue dated 31 March 2014, or Revision 01 dated 04 August 2014, or Revision 2 dated 30 July 2015, or Revision 3 dated 8 February 2016.



AHD ASB BO105-40A-107 original issue dated 31 March 2014, or Revision 1 dated 08 September 2014, or Revision 2 dated 30 July 2015, or Revision 3 dated 8 February 2016.

AHD ASB BO105LS-40A-12 original issue dated 31 March 2014, or Revision 1 dated 08 September 2014, or Revision 2 dated 30 July 2015, or Revision 3 dated 8 February 2016.

AHD ASB BO105 LS A-3-STC-0654/3058-40A-2, original issue dated 8 February 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 17 March 2016.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH, Industriestrasse 4, 86607 Donauwörth, Federal Republic of Germany
Telephone: + 49 (0)151 1422 8976; Facsimile: + 49 (0)906 71 4111.



Appendix 1 – Parts not to be installed on Post-mod Helicopters

Helicopter Models (Variants)	Component	P/N
BO105 LS A-3	Swashplate Bellows	105-10113.05
		4638305043
	Swashplate	117-41905
		117-41904 (unless marked as “ASB BO105 LS-40A-12 accomplished”)
STC-modified BO105 LS A-3 (Superlifter)	Swashplate Bellows	105-10113.05
		4638305043
	Swashplate	105-419051
BO105 A, BO105 C (C23, CB, CB-4, CB-5), BO105 D (D, DS, DB, DBS, DB-4, DBS-4, DBS-5), and BO105 S (CS, CBS, CBS-4, CBS-5).	Swashplate Bellows	105-10113.05
		4638305043
		4619305044
	Swashplate	105-41904
		105-41905
		105-41902 (unless marked as “ASB BO105-40A-107 accomplished”)
		105-41902-001 (unless marked as “ASB BO105-40A-107 accomplished”)
BK117, A-1, A-3, A-4, B-1, B-2 and C-1.	Swashplate Bellows	105-10113.05
		4638305043
	Swashplate	117-41905
		117-41904 (unless marked as “ASB MBB-BK117-40A-115 accomplished”)
BK117 C-2 and C-2e	Swashplate Bellows	105-10113.05
		4638305043
	Swashplate	B632M2002101

