



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0232

Issued: 22 November 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) 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.

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, 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 agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

EC 225 LP helicopters

Effective Date: 06 December 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 63 – Rotor Drive(s) – Main Gear Box / Emergency Spraying System – Modification / Functional Test

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France

Applicability:

EC 225 LP helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason:

Occurrences of oil leaks during engine starting, originated from the main gearbox (MGB), were reported. Subsequent investigation determined that the leaks were a result of inadvertently opening of the "P 2.4" valve of the emergency lubrication (EMLUB) system and MGB pressurisation by compressed air produced by the engine during start-up. The signal to open the affected "P 2.4" valve was triggered by an electrical power interruption when changing from ground to helicopter electrical power.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to loss of MGB lubrication, possibly resulting in reduced ability of the crew to cope with adverse operating conditions.

To address inadvertent pressurization of the MGB and potential loss of MGB main lubrication system, AH developed a modification of the electrical control circuit of the MGB EMLUB system, available for in-service application through AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) EC225-63A031.



For the reasons described above, this AD requires modification of the MGB EMLUB control circuit, post-mod repetitive functional tests of the MGB EMLUB system and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) Within 500 flight hours (FH) after the effective date of this AD, modify the electrical control circuit of the MGB EMLUB system in accordance with the instructions of AH ASB EC225-63A031.
- (2) Within 600 FH after modification of the EMLUB electrical control circuit, as required by paragraph (1) of this AD and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 600 FH, accomplish a functional test of the MGB EMLUB system in accordance with the instructions of AH ASB EC225-63A031.
- (3) If, during any functional test as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as detailed in AH ASB EC225-63A031, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of AH ASB EC225-63A031.
- (4) Accomplishment of corrective action(s) on a helicopter, as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, does not constitute terminating action for the repetitive functional tests as required by paragraph (2) of this AD for that helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH No. EC225-63A031 original issue dated 31 August 2016 or Revision 01 dated 07 October 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this 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. This AD was posted on 19 October 2016 as PAD 16-149 for consultation until 16 November 2016. 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: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (Technical Support) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence 13725 Marignane Cedex, France. Telephone +33 (4) 42 85 97 97, Fax +33 (4) 42 85 99 66, E-mail: TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com.

