



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-139

Issued: 18 October 2018

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) 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.

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:

Type/Model designation(s):

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS DEUTSCHLAND GmbH MBB-BK 117 D-2 helicopters

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

TCDS Numbers: EASA.R.010

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA – Rotorcraft Flight Manual – Limitation Section – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD), formerly Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 D-2 helicopters, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Helicopters (AH) Service Bulletin (SB) MBB-BK117 D-2-33-007.

Groups: Group 1 helicopters are those having embodied the SB. Group 2 helicopters are those not embodying the SB.

Reason:

AH recently designed a modification to the Night Vision Imaging System (NVIS), and published the SB providing instructions to embody this modification on in-service helicopters. It was determined that this modification does not comply with the applicable NVIS airworthiness specifications, and



consequently invalidates NVIS approval for affected helicopters, and introduces additional hazard for un-aided night operations.

This condition, if not corrected, in case of certain failures of the NVIS during night operations, or as a result of unintended selection of a certain NVIS setting, can lead to loss of, or reduced, situational awareness during critical phases of flight close to ground, possibly resulting in loss of control of the helicopter.

As of the issue date of this AD, AH has not issued applicable repair or modification instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD prohibits night operations for helicopters embodying the SB, and prohibits installation thereof on pre-SB helicopters.

This AD is considered to be an interim action and further AD action will follow.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Rotorcraft Flight Manual (RFM) Amendment:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 14 days after the effective date of AD, amend the applicable RFM by inserting a copy of Appendix 1 of this AD, inform all flight crews and, thereafter, operate the helicopter accordingly.
- (2) Amending the limitations section of the RFM of a helicopter to incorporate a later RFM revision which includes the procedures detailed in Appendix 1 of this AD is acceptable to comply with the RFM amendment requirement of paragraph (1) of this AD.

SB embodiment prohibition:

- (3) For Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, do not modify any helicopter in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

None

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 08 November 2018.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
3. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this PAD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this PAD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH, Industriestrasse 4,



86609 Donauwörth, Federal Republic of Germany

Telephone: + 49 (0)151 1422 8976; Facsimile: + 49 (0)906 71 41

Web portal: <https://keycopter.airbushelicopters.com> > Technical Request Management

E-mail: customersupport.helicopters@airbus.com

Withdrawn



Appendix 1: RFM Amendment

LIMITATIONS

Night operations are prohibited

Withdrawn

