



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 19-165

Issued: 06 September 2019

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:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

EC 175 B helicopters

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.150

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 32 – Landing Gear – Main Landing Gear – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH)

Applicability:

EC 175 B helicopters, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

Affected part: Left-hand (LH) main landing gear (MLG) shock absorbers, having Manufacturer Part Number (MP/N) AIR84044/5 (AH P/N M321G10A3102), and having serial number (s/n) LK1700193, LK1700066, LK1600138, LK1500960, LK1600735, or LK1500916, and right-hand (RH) MLG shock absorbers, having MP/N AIR84045/5 (AH P/N M321G10A4102), and having s/n LK1700065, LK1700114, LK1600399, or LK1500510, except those having HEROUX DEVTEK Service Bulletin (SB) AIR8445-32-02 recorded on the Log Card.

Serviceable part: Any LH MLG shock absorber, having MP/N AIR84044/5 (AH P/N M321G10A3102) and any RH MLG shock absorber, having MP/N AIR84045/5 (AH P/N M321G10A4102), that is not an affected part.



The ASB: AH EC175 Alert SB (ASB) EC175-32A002 Revision 0.

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:

A manufacturing non-conformity was discovered, affecting some LH and RH MLG shock absorber cylinders, as a consequence of which the fatigue life limit of the affected parts is reduced, with respect to the applicable value in the AH EC 175 B Airworthiness Limitations Section.

This condition, if not corrected, may lead to premature failure of an MLG shock absorber, with consequent loss of landing gear function during taxiing, take-off or landing, possibly resulting in damage to the helicopter and injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH published the ASB, providing instructions to replace the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires removal from service of each affected part before exceeding its reduced life limit. This AD also prohibits (re)installation of an affected on any helicopter.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Replacement:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Before exceeding 20 000 landing cycles since first installation on a helicopter, or within 42 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, replace any affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Parts Installation:

- (2) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, do not install (see Note 1 of this AD) on any helicopter an affected part, as defined in this AD.

Note 1: The action to 'install' an affected part on a helicopter, as specified in paragraph (2) of this AD, does not include removal and re-installation of an affected part on the same helicopter for purposes (e.g. regular maintenance) other than to comply with the AD.

Ref. Publications:

AH EC175 ASB EC175-32A002 Revision 0 issued on 09 April 2019.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.



Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 04 October 2019.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness 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:
Web portal: <https://keycopter.airbushelicopters.com> Technical Requests Management, or
E-mail: support.technical-dyncomp.ah@airbus.com.

