



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-012

Issued: 21 January 2020

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:

SAFRAN HELICOPTER ENGINES

Type/Model designation(s):

RTM 322 engines

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.E.009

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Airworthiness Limitations Section – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

SAFRAN Helicopter Engines, S.A. (SAFRAN), formerly Turboméca, S.A.

Applicability:

RTM 322-01/9 engines, all serial numbers.

These engines are known to be installed on, but not limited to, NH Industries NH90 (military) helicopters.

Definitions:

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

The ALS: SAFRAN RTM 322-01/9 Engine Maintenance Manual (EMM), Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) M3-A-EBM-00-D approved on 30 September 2019.

The AMP: The approved Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated engine.



For RTM 322-01/9 engines installed on helicopters registered in Europe, compliance with the approved AMP is required by Commission Regulation (EU) [1321/2014](#), Part M.A.301, paragraph 3.

New and/or more restrictive tasks: This includes all tasks that are new and all tasks for which a threshold or interval was reduced, which were introduced into the ALS (as defined in this AD) since the previous ALS Revision that is currently incorporated in the AMP.

Reason:

The airworthiness limitations and/or certification maintenance instructions for RTM 322-01/9 engines, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in the RTM 322-01/9 EMM ALS, reference M3-A-EBM-00-D. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

SAFRAN recently issued Mandatory Service Bulletin (MSB) MSBP-M3-A-72-42-00-04A-A-A, providing instructions for repetitive borescope inspections of the combustion chamber. This inspection task has now been included in the ALS, as defined in this AD.

For the reason described above, this AD requires accomplishment of the actions specified in the ALS.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Maintenance Tasks and Replacement of Life Limited Parts:

- (1) From the effective date of this AD, accomplish the following actions, as specified in the ALS, depending on engine configuration:
 - (1.1) Replace each component before exceeding the applicable life limit; and
 - (1.2) Within the thresholds and intervals, accomplish all applicable maintenance tasks.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) In case of finding discrepancies (as defined in the ALS) during accomplishment of any task as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, within the compliance time specified in the ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the applicable SAFRAN maintenance documentation. If no compliance time is identified in the ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) before next flight. If a detected discrepancy is not identified in the ALS, before next flight, contact SAFRAN for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

AMP Revision:

- (3) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved AMP by incorporating the limitations, tasks and associated thresholds and intervals described in the ALS, depending on engine configuration.



Credit:

- (4) If, before the effective date of this AD, the AMP has been revised to incorporate the maintenance tasks and life limitations as specified in RTM 322-01/9 EMM ALS M3-A-EBM-00-D approved on 30 March 2019, that action ensures the continued accomplishment of those tasks and limitations.

Consequently, for a helicopter to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the ALS, depending on engine configuration, within the compliance times as specified in the ALS to comply with paragraph (1) of this AD.

For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the ALS, depending on engine configuration, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (3) of this AD.

Recording AD compliance:

- (5) When the AMP of a helicopter has been revised as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for the engine(s) installed on that helicopter. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual action is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

Ref. Publications:

SAFRAN RTM 322-01/9 EMM ALS M3-A-EBM-00-D approved on 30 September 2019.

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

SAFRAN MSBP-M3-A-72-42-00-04A-A-A original issue (issue 001) dated 27 February 2019.

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 18 February 2020.
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 connect to www.tools.safran-helicopter-engines.com.

