



# Notification of a Proposal to cancel an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.: 21-117-CN**

**Issued: 12 August 2021**

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) Cancellation Notice (CN) 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 cancellation 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):

AS 350 and AS 355 helicopters

**Effective Date:** [TBD - standard: the same day as AD-CN issue date]

**TCDS Number(s):** EASA.R.008, EASA.R.146

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Cancellation:** This Notice proposes to cancel EASA AD 2020-0175 dated 05 August 2020.

## ATA 52 – CANCELLED: Doors – Sliding Doors – Inspection

### Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale

### Applicability:

AS 350 helicopters, all serial number (s/n); and

AS 355 helicopters, all s/n;

if equipped with a left-hand (LH) and/or right-hand (RH) sliding door.

### Definitions:

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

**The applicable ASB:** AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS350-52.00.54 and ASB AS355-52.00.32, as applicable.

### Reason:

A case was reported where the LH sliding door of an AS 350 B3 helicopter was lost in flight. The



event occurred, while flying with the door locked in the open position. The results of the technical analysis of this event initially indicated that the loss of the sliding door resulted from the disengagement of the roller from the upper rail. It has also been assessed that, due to design similarity, this scenario may also develop on AS 355 helicopters sliding doors.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to sliding door in-flight detachment, possibly resulting in damage to the helicopter, and/or injury to persons on the ground.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH published the applicable ASB to provide inspection instructions to ensure that the upper rail and roller of the LH and/or RH sliding door devices are serviceable. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2020-0175 to require a one-time detailed inspection of the LH and/or RH sliding doors and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

Since that AD was issued, prompted by reported inspection results and further investigation, it has been confirmed that the occurrence referenced above was an isolated case, which had resulted from incorrect operation and maintenance error. No unsafe condition is therefore likely to exist or develop on the sliding doors on other helicopters in the fleet, which means that EASA AD 2020-0175 is no longer necessary.

For the reasons described above, this Notice proposes to cancel EASA AD 2020-0175.

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

None.

#### **Ref. Publications:**

AH ASB AS355-52.00.32 original issue dated 18 June 2020.

AH ASB AS350-52.00.54 original issue dated 18 June 2020.

#### **Remarks:**

1. This Proposed AD-CN will be closed for consultation on 09 September 2021.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD-CN should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu).
3. For any question concerning the technical content of this PAD-CN, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Customer Support, Telephone +33 (0)4.42.85.97.89, Fax + 33 (0)4.42.85.99.66, E-mail: [Airframe.Technical-Support@airbus.com](mailto:Airframe.Technical-Support@airbus.com), Technical Request Management: [TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com](mailto:TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com).

