



# Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.: 23-064**

**Issued: 05 June 2023**

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 130 and AS 350 helicopters

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

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

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Supersedure:** None

## ATA 63 – Main Rotor Drive – Main Gear Box Engine Coupling – Inspection

### Manufacturer(s):

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

### Applicability:

EC 130 T2 and EC 130 B4 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n) having a helicopter date of manufacture, as defined in this AD, before 13 February 2023; and

AS 350 B, AS 350 B1, AS 350 B2, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 B3 helicopters, all s/n having a helicopter date of manufacture before 15 May 2023; and

AS 350 D helicopters, all s/n having a helicopter date of manufacture before 15 May 2023, except helicopters equipped with a Lycoming engine.

### Definitions:

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

**The ASB:** AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) EC130-63A026 and ASB AS350-63.00.38, as applicable.



**Helicopter date of manufacture:** The date of issuance of the EASA Form 52 (or equivalent), which is referenced in AH documentation.

**Reason:**

Inverted installations of the engine flange on the main gear box (MGB) engine coupling have been reported on AH final assembly line.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, may lead to loss of power transmission to MGB and main rotor, possibly resulting in loss of control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB, as defined in this AD, providing inspection and corrective actions instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the MGB engine coupling installation and, depending on findings, corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

**Inspection:**

- (1) Within 165 flight hours or 13 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the installation of the MGB engine coupling in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

**Corrective Action(s):**

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, an incorrect installation, as defined in the ASB, is identified, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective actions in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

**Reporting:**

- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, an incorrect installation, as defined in the ASB, is identified, within 30 days after the inspection, or after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, report the inspection results to AH. This can be done using the Response Form available in the ASB.

**Ref. Publications:**

AH ASB EC130-63A026 original issue dated 31 May 2023.

AH ASB AS350-63.00.38 original issue dated 31 May 2023.

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

**Remarks:**

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 19 June 2023.



2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto: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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this PAD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (Technical Support), E-mail: [TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com](mailto:TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com), or visit Airbus World: Technical Request Management: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com>.

