

## Notification of a Proposal to cancel an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.:** 24-057-CN

**Issued:** 23 May 2024

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):**

EC 120 B helicopters

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

**TCDS Number(s):** EASA.R.508

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Cancellation:** This PAD-CN proposes to cancel EASA AD 2020-0247 dated 10 November 2020.

### ATA 32 – CANCELLED: Landing Gear – Skid Tubes – Inspection / Rotorcraft Flight Manual – Section Limitations – Amendment

**Manufacturer(s):**

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France

**Applicability:**

EC 120 B helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n).

**Definitions:**

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

**Autorotation landing:** Power-off landing with touchdown completed.

**The ASB:** AH EC120 Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 05A022.

**Affected part:** Left-hand (LH) and right-hand (RH) skid tubes, having Part Number (P/N) C321A2107101 (LH), P/N C321A2108101 (RH), P/N C321A2107102 (LH), P/N C321A2108102 (RH), P/N C321A2502102 (LH) or P/N C321A2503102 (RH), installed on landing gear having P/N C321A2101053, P/N C321A2101054, P/N C321A2501051 or P/N C321A2601053.

**Reason:**

Cracks have been reportedly found on landing gear skid of a helicopter with a high number of autorotation landings. Similar cracks have been found on other helicopters, also having accumulated a high number of autorotation landings.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to failure of the landing gear skid, possibly resulting in rollover of the helicopter after a hard landing and consequent injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH published the ASB to provide inspection instructions of the affected parts, and to define a temporary weight limitation until these inspections are implemented. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2020-0247, requiring amendment of the applicable Rotorcraft Flight Manual (RFM), repetitive inspections of the affected parts and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

Since that AD was issued, AH designed new equipped skids that include reinforced crossbeam feet, which improves strength and increases the number of landings allowed in autorotation. AH also published an Operating Time Limit (OTL) for the new equipped skids, and an OTL for equipped skids, which do not include new reinforced crossbeam feet. Consequently, the unsafe condition is no longer present and cannot develop on a helicopter.

This Notice, therefore, proposes to cancel EASA AD 2020-0247.

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

None.

**Ref. Publications:**

AH EC120 Emergency ASB 05A022 original issue dated 20 October 2020.

**Remarks:**

1. This Proposed AD-CN will be closed for consultation on 20 June 2024.
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 (Technical Support),  
Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane Cedex, France, Telephone +33 (0)4 42 85 97 97, Fax +33 (0)4 42 85 99 66  
Web portal: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com> or  
E-mail: [support.technical-airframe.ah@airbus.com](mailto:support.technical-airframe.ah@airbus.com).

