



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 26-105

Issued: 11 September 2026

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):

SA 365 N helicopters

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.105

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 65 – Tail Rotor Drive – Tail Gear Box Control Rod Bearings – Replacement / Life Limitation

Manufacturer(s):

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

Applicability:

SA 365 N helicopters, all serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: Airbus Helicopters (AH) Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS365-05-00-0005.

Affected part: Tail gear box (TGB) control rod bearing, having Part Number 360A33-4052-00.

Serviceable part: A TGB control rod bearing, eligible for installation in accordance with AH instructions, that is not an affected part; or an affected part that has accumulated less than 500 flight hours (FH) since new (first installation on a helicopter).



Reason:

An occurrence was reported, where metal particles were found on the control rod bearings. Subsequent investigation identified premature bearing spalling as the root cause of the metallic particles.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to loss of yaw control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB to provide instructions for replacement of the affected parts at reduced life limits.

For the reason described above, this AD requires replacement of affected parts before exceeding the reduced life limit.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Replacement / Life Limit:

- (1) Within 500 FH after the effective date of this AD or before the affected part accumulates 500 FH since first installation on a helicopter, whichever occurs later, replace that affected part with a serviceable part, as defined in this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Part(s) Installation:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected part on any helicopter, provided that the part is a serviceable part, and, following installation, it is replaced with a serviceable part before it accumulates 500 FH since first installation on a helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB AS365-05-00-0005 issue 001 dated 22 June 2026.

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 09 October 2026.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety 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](#). 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) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane Cedex, France, Telephone: +33 (4) 42 85 97 97, Fax: +33 (4) 42 85 99 66, Web portal: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com> Technical Requests Management, or E-mail: TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com

