European Union Aviation Safety Agency

Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 26-128

Issued: 21 October 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:	Type/Model designation(s):
AIRBUS HELICOPTERS DEUTSCHLAND GmbH	MBB-BK117 helicopters

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.010

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Rescue Winch Safety Cable – Removal

---

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH); Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH; Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd.; and Airbus Helicopters Inc.

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 D-3 helicopters, serial numbers (s/n) 20001 to 20360 inclusive and s/n 21001 to 21999 inclusive.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) MBB-BK117-25-23-0004.

Affected parts: Safety cable brackets, Part Number D252M3032101, installed as part of the Operator Workstation (OWS) Manufacturer Part Number (MP/N) D252M3200051, MP/N D252M3200052, MP/N D252M3201051 or MP/N D252M3203051.

Groups: Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected part installed. Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected part installed.

An agency of the European Union

TE.CAP.00112-010 © European Union Aviation Safety Agency. All rights reserved. ISO9001 Certified.
Proprietary document. Copies are not controlled. Confirm revision status through the EASA-Internet/Intranet.

Reason:

An investigation has revealed that safety cable brackets on the OWS, which can be installed on the left-hand or right-hand side of the helicopter, were fitted with standard fasteners, which are not tested to required quality standards. Their failure could cause detachment of the safety cable.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to detachment of the safety cable, potentially resulting in the operator falling from the helicopter.

To address this unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB, to provide instructions for removal of the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires removal of those affected parts.

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:

Removal:

(1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 250 flight hours or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, remove each affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB (see Note 1 of this AD).

Note 1: Removal of the brackets as required by paragraph (1) of this AD includes removal of the related safety cable, fixation rails, connecting hardware and placards.

Part(s) Installation:

(2) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected part on any helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB MBB-BK117-25-23-0004 original issue (Issue 001) dated 15 October 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 18 November 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

TE.CAP.00112-010 © European Union Aviation Safety Agency. All rights reserved. ISO9001 Certified.
Proprietary document. Copies are not controlled. Confirm revision status through the EASA-Internet/Intranet.

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) at:
Web portal: https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com / Technical Requests Management, or
E-mail: TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com, or Telephone: +33 (0)4 42 859 789.

An agency of the European Union

TE.CAP.00112-010 © European Union Aviation Safety Agency. All rights reserved. ISO9001 Certified.
Proprietary document. Copies are not controlled. Confirm revision status through the EASA-Internet/Intranet.