



Notification of a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 15-149

Issued: 03 December 2015

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 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 DEUTSCHLAND GmbH

Type/Model designation(s):

MBB-BK 117 helicopters

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.010

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2015-0045, dated 13 March 2015, including correction dated 02 April 2015.

ATA 62 – Main Rotor – Main Rotor Blade Vibration Absorber – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD) (formerly Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH), Airbus Helicopters Inc. (formerly American Eurocopter LLC)

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 C-2, MBB-BK117 C-2e, MBB-BK117 D-2 and MBB-BK117 D-2m helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n).

Reason:

Heavy vibrations of the main rotor of an MBB-BK 117 C-2 helicopter were experienced in service. During subsequent disassembly of the vibration absorber, a bearing damage was detected.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to the loss of balls from the ball bearing while the main rotor is turning, possibly resulting in damage to the helicopter and/or injury to persons on the ground.

Due to similarity of design, this condition may affect also MBB-BK 117 D-2 helicopters.



To address this unsafe condition, AHD issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) MBB-BK117 C-2-62A-009 and ASB MBB-BK117 D-2-62A-001 (hereafter referred to as “the applicable ASB” in this AD), to provide instructions for replacement of vibration absorber spacers and re-identification of main rotor blades (MRB) and vibration absorbers after modification. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2015-0045 (later corrected) to require accomplishment of modification and re-identification.

Since that AD was issued, it was found that re-identification of the parts, as instructed in the applicable ASB at original issue, leads to using the Part Number (P/N) of an existing MRB that has a different structural design. This could lead to erroneous part management and maintenance. Prompted by this findings, AHD issued Revision 1 of the applicable ASB to provide corrected instructions to re-identify parts, including those modified in accordance with the original issue of the applicable ASB, and to expand the applicability to include MBB-BK117 C-2e and D-2m helicopters.

For the reasons described above, this AD partially retains the requirements of EASA AD 2015-0045, which is superseded, expands the Applicability, and requires re-identification of any incorrectly re-identified part.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Partial re-statement of the requirements of EASA AD 2015-0045:

- (1) Within 12 months after 27 March 2015 [the effective date of EASA AD 2015-0045], for helicopters equipped with one or more MRB P/N B621M1002101, or P/N B621M1002102, or P/N B621M1002103, or P/N D621M1002101, modify each MRB vibration absorber P/N B621M3001101 by replacing spacers with flanged spacers P/N B621M3007201 and re-identify the vibration absorber and the MRB to the corresponding new P/N in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB.
- (2) After modification of a helicopter as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, do not install on that helicopter a MRB P/N B621M1002101 (see Note), or P/N B621M1002102 (see Note), or P/N B621M1002103, or P/N D621M1002101, or a vibration absorber P/N B621M3001101, or a spacer P/N 117-801841.11.

Note: MRB P/N “B621M1002101 mod. i.a.w. ASB 62A-009”, or P/N “B621M1002102 mod. i.a.w. ASB 62A-009” are not affected by paragraph (2) of this AD and can be installed on an helicopter modified as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

New requirements of this AD:

- (3) Within 12 months after 27 March 2015 [the effective date of EASA AD 2015-0045]:
 - (3.1) inspect each MRB P/N B621M1002104, to determine the s/n in accordance with the instructions of ASB MBB-BK117 C-2-62A-009 at Revision 1.



A review of the helicopter records is acceptable in lieu of the required inspection, provided those records are reliable and the s/n of the MRB can be positively determined from that review.

- (3.2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (3.1) of this AD, an MRB P/N B621M1002104, having a s/n up to 3799 inclusive, is found, re-identify that MRB in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3.B.2 of ASB MBB-BK117 C-2-62A-009 at Revision 1.
- (4) From the effective date of this AD, do not install a MRB P/N B621M1002104, having a s/n up to 3799 inclusive, on an helicopter, unless it has been re-identified in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3.B.2 of ASB MBB-BK117 C-2-62A-009 at Revision 1.

Ref. Publications:

AHD ASB MBB-BK117 C-2-62A-009 original issue dated 20 January 2015, or Revision 1 dated 28 October 2015.

AHD ASB MBB-BK117 D-2-62A-001 original issue dated 20 January 2015, or Revision 1 dated 28 October 2015.

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

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 03 January 2016.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH, Industriestrasse 4, 86607 Donauwörth, Federal Republic of Germany
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