

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

released by DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'AVIATION CIVILE

Inspection and/or modifications described below are mandatory. No person may operate a product to which this Airworthiness Directive applies except in accordance with the requirements of this Airworthiness Directive.

Translation of 'Consigne de Navigabilité' ref. : 96-277-037(A) R2
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

EUROCOPTER

SA 315 Helicopters

Horizontal Stabilizer Spar

This Airworthiness Directive applies to the horizontal stabilizer, all part numbers, installed on SA 315 B (LAMA) helicopters.

With a view to improving the horizontal stabilizer fatigue strength, the following measures are rendered mandatory from the effective date for this Airworthiness Directive (mandatory embodiment of modifications 07.2214 and 07.2215 on all the horizontal stabilizers, all part numbers, and visual inspection of the inside of the tube).

1. STABILIZERS PART NUMBER 315A-35-10-000-1

- 1.1** Within three months, from December 14, 1996, a visual inspection of the inside of the tube was to be done according to the directives given in paragraph 2.B(1) of the EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 55.01, Revision 2.

If corrosion is found inside the tube, other than in the half-shell area, replace the tube within 500 flying hours following the inspection or at the latest by December 31, 1998 (at the first limit reached).

- 1.2** The inspection described in paragraph 1.1 above is then to be carried out at intervals of no more than six years.

- 1.3** Compliance with paragraph 2.B(2) of the EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 55-01 R2, which corresponds to the embodiment of modifications 07.2215 (adding half-shells on the spar tube) and 07.2214 (installation of the spar tube without play) was to have been ensured by March 1, 1984 as required by the Airworthiness Directive No. 83-204-026(B) which has now been cancelled.

- 1.4** Specific checks to be carried out once compliance has been ensured with the above paragraph 1.3 :

- After the last flight of the day, visually check the installation of the half-shells and of the horizontal stabilizer.
- Every 400 flying hours or every four months (at the first limit reached), visually check the condition of the installation and lubricate the spar tube attachment bolts.

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1.5 For the horizontal stabilizers P/N 315A35-10-000-1 on which modification 07.2215 has been embodied, the airworthiness aspects covered by the Airworthiness Directive No. 85-194-030(B) (effective date : November 27, 1985) which is superseded and replaced by this Airworthiness Directive, remain applicable. These aspects are as follows :

- Confirm that there are no traces of marking on the spar tube and rework the stabilizer support fittings as described in paragraph 1C of the referenced EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 01-23, within 50 flying hours (unless this has already been carried out) then at intervals of no more than 400 flying hours or when the horizontal stabilizer is removed.

1.6 For the horizontal stabilizers P/N 315A35-10-000-1 on which modification 07.2215 has been embodied and which do not have the letter "X" engraved on the identification plate in the official stamp area, the airworthiness aspects covered by the Airworthiness Directive No. 88-025-031(B) (effective date : February 13, 1988) which is superseded and replaced by this Airworthiness Directive, remain applicable. These aspects are as follows :

- With a view to removing any traces of corrosion and improving the protective treatment at the half-shell-to-stabilizer tube center section assembly points, the following measures were to have been applied at the 400 flying hours interval or by February 13, 1989 at the latest, (whichever of the two limits was reached first).
- Carry out the checks and any required reworking, return the assembly to flightworthy condition and mark the letter "X" on the stabilizer in accordance with the directives given in paragraph 1.C of the EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 01-25.

2. STABILIZERS PART NUMBER 315A35-10-000-2 AND HIGHER DASH NUMBERS

2.1 Within three months, from December 14, 1996, a visual inspection of the inside of the tube was to be done according to the directives given in paragraph 2.B(1) of the EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 55.01, Revision 2.

If corrosion is found inside the tube, other than in the half-shell area, replace the tube within 500 flying hours of the inspection or by December 31, 1998 at the latest (whichever occurs first).

2.2 The inspection described in paragraph 2.1 above is then to be carried out at intervals of no more than six years.

2.3 By June 14, 1997, at the latest, check and, if necessary modification of the supports and the stabilizer in compliance with the methods described in paragraph 2B(2) of the Service Bulletin No. 55-01 R2 (embodiment of modification 07.2215), provided that the instructions given in paragraph 2B(3) of the Service Bulletin No. 55-01 R2 are applied once within 8 days or 10 flying hours (whichever limit is reached first) from the effective date of Revision 1 of this Airworthiness Directive (check the condition of the tube inside the area which is covered by the two halfshells. If a crack is found, discard the tube).

2.4 Specific checks to be carried out once compliance has been ensured with the above paragraph 2.3 of this Airworthiness Directive :

- After the last flight of the day, visually check the installation of the half-shells and of the horizontal stabilizer.
- Every 400 flying hours or every four months (whichever limit is reached first), visually check the condition of the installation and lubricate the spar tube attachment bolts.

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2.5 Embodiment of modification 07.2214 (installation of the spar tube without play) was to have been ensured by March 1, 1984 at the latest as required by Airworthiness Directive No. 83-204-026(B), which has been cancelled.

2.6 For the horizontal stabilizers P/N 315A35-10-000-2, the airworthiness aspects covered by the Airworthiness Directive No. 85-194-030(B) (effective date : November 27, 1985) which is superseded and replaced by this Airworthiness Directive, remain applicable. These aspects are as follows :

- Confirm that there are no traces of marking on the spar tube and rework the stabilizer support fittings as described in paragraph 1C(1) of the referenced EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 01-23, within 50 flying hours (unless this has already been carried out) then at intervals of no more than 400 flying hours or when the horizontal stabilizer is removed.

3. STABILIZERS, ALL PART NUMBERS

Within 30 days at the latest from the effective date of Revision 2 of this Airworthiness Directive, fit a lockwire around the 4 attachment clamps of the half-shells, in accordance with the directives given in paragraph 2.B2 of referenced Service Bulletin No. 55.01 Revision 4.

- 4.** All stabilizers held as spares, before they are installed on an aircraft, must be modified by the embodiment of modifications 07.2214 and 07.2215 and the inside of the tube be visually inspected in accordance with the directives given in paragraph 2.B(1) of the referenced Service Bulletin No. 55-01, Revision 4.

Ref. : EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletins :
No. 55-01 Revision 4, No. 05-15, No. 01-23 and No. 01-25.

Note : Airworthiness Directives 83-204-026(B), 85-194-030(B) and 88-025-031(B) have been cancelled.

This Revision 2 replaces Airworthiness Directive 96-277-037(B) R1 dated May 21, 1997.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original AD : DECEMBER 14, 1996
Revision 1 : UPON RECEIPT FROM MAY 21, 1997
Revision 2 : AUGUST 08, 1998