

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. : 1998-171-039(A) R2
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

EUROCOPTER

SA 315 helicopters

Main rotor blades - Cuff to spar assembly

1. APPLICABILITY

This Airworthiness Directive applies to SA 315 B helicopters, equipped with main rotor blades P/N :

3160S11-10000 all dash numbers, 3160S11-30000 all dash numbers,
3160S11-35000 all dash numbers, 3160S11-40000 all dash numbers,
3160S11-45000 all dash numbers, 3160S11-50000 all dash numbers,
3160S11-55000 all dash numbers.

2. REASON

This Airworthiness Directive is issued subsequent to the failure of a main rotor blade on a SA 315 B helicopter.

3. MANDATORY ACTION AND COMPLIANCE TIME

The following measures are mandatory:

3.1. Check the spar areas for cracks in accordance with the procedure defined in paragraph 2B of EUROCOPTER Service Bulletin No. 05.39 referenced below,

- 3.1.1. for blades which have logged less than 400 flying hours, at the latest, when the blades reach 400 flying hours,
- 3.1.2. for blades which have logged 400 flying hours or more, and which have been checked in accordance with the original issue of this Airworthiness Directive or its Revision 1, within 25 flying hours following the last check carried out,
- 3.1.3. for blades which have logged 400 flying hours or more, and which have not yet been checked, before the next flight following the effective date of Revision 2 of this Airworthiness Directive,

.../...

3.1.4. for blades which are held as spares, before they are installed on an aircraft,

3.1.5. if 1 Omega vibration suddenly occurs, before the next flight.

3.2. Repeat the check for cracks defined in paragraph 3.1. above, every 100 flying hours or 600 cycles (the first limit reached is applicable). (The definition of "cycle" is given in paragraph 1.D.2. of the Service Bulletin referenced below).

3.3. If a crack is detected, remove the blade from service.

REF. : EUROCOPTER SA 315 Service Bulletin No. 05.39.

This Revision 2 replaces Airworthiness Directive 98-171-039(A) R1 dated May 06, 1998.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

**Original AD : Upon receipt of Telegraphic
diffusion from APRIL 14, 1998**

**Revision 1 : Upon receipt of Telegraphic
diffusion from APRIL 17, 1998**

Revision 2 : Upon receipt from JANUARY 12, 2000