



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0062

Issued: 11 April 2017

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) 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.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

EC 130 B4 and T2 helicopters

Effective Date: 25 April 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.008

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 67 – Rotors Flight Control – Collective Pitch Control – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France)

Applicability:

EC 130 B4 and T2 helicopters, all serial numbers.

Reason:

During the autorotation phase of an acceptance flight, when the pilot pushed the collective pitch stick to the low pitch position, he felt a jamming sensation in the stick. Consequently, he freed the stick by pulling on it. Analysis of this incident has demonstrated that the locking tab hook was extremely close to the low pitch locking pin and that a fold in the control stick boot may have entered the space between these two parts.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to an untimely locking of the collective pitch stick, possibly resulting in reduced control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus Helicopters issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) EC130-67A019 to provide instructions to inspect and, if necessary, to adjust the clearance between the tab hook and the pilot's collective pitch stick locking pin in its low pitch position.



For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection to determine the clearance between the locking tab hook and the collective pitch stick (low pitch) locking pin and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 165 flight hours or 3 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the clearance between the hook and the locking pin, and inspect the boot folds, in accordance with the instructions of paragraphs 3.B.1 and 3.B.2 of Airbus Helicopters ASB EC130-67A019.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the clearance is found to be less than 5 mm, and/or a boot fold has entered the space between hook and locking pin, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of paragraphs 3.B.3, 3.B.4 and 3.B.5 of Airbus Helicopters ASB EC130-67A019.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus Helicopters ASB EC130-67A019 dated 23 February 2016.

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

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters – Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane Cedex, France
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Web portal: <https://keycopter.airbushelicopters.com> > Technical Requests Management

