EASA

EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

AD No.: 2015-0143-E

Date: 16 July 2015

Note: This Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 on behalf of the European Community, 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 EU 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with 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 [EU 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [EC 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name: AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Not applicable

Type/Model designation(s): AS 355 NP helicopters

TCDS Number: EASA.R.146

Foreign AD:

Supersedure: None

| ATA 64 | Tail Rotor – Blades – Inspection | |
|------------------|--|--|
| Manufacturer(s): | Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter) | |
| Applicability: | AS355 NP helicopters, all serial numbers, when equipped with a blade having P/N 355A12-0050-10, P/N 355A12-0050-12, P/N 355A12-0051-10, or P/N 355A12-0051-12. | |
| Reason: | It was verified that certain Part Number (P/N) tail rotor (TR) blades were inadvertently not listed in maintenance task 64/10/00/000/000/025, as specified in the Airworthiness Limitation Section (ALS) of the AS355 NP helicopter. | |
| | This condition, if not corrected, could lead to degradation of the TR blades, possibly resulting in TR blade failure and loss of control of the helicopter. | |
| | To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus Helicopters (AH) issued Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS355-05.00.74 to make operators aware of this. | |
| | For the reason described above, this AD requires the implementation of ALS maintenance task 64/10/00/000/000/025 for certain P/N TR blades. | |
| | This AD is considered to be an interim action, pending the next revision of the AS355NP ALS document. | |
| Effective Date: | 17 July 2015 | |

| Required Action(s) | Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously: | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| and Compliance Time(s): | (1) Within the compliance time as specified in Table 1 of this AD, and , thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 30 flight hours (FH), for each affected TR blade, accomplish the applicable maintenance actions in accordance with the instructions as specified in ALS maintenance task 64/10/00/000/000/025. Airbus Helicopters Emergency ASB AS355- 05.00.74 provides additional information on the subject addressed by this AD. | | |
| | Table 1 – Inspection Threshold | | |
| | FH accumulated (on the effective date of this AD) b the TR Blade since first installation on a helicopter | | |
| | 20 FH or more | Within 10 FH after the effective date of this AD | |
| | Less than 20 FH | Before exceeding 30 FH since first installation on a helicopter | |
| | (2) If, during any action as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s), or replace the affected TR blade with a serviceable part. | | |
| | (3) Accomplishment of corrective action(s) or replacement of a TR blade on a helicopter, as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, does not constitute terminating action for the repetitive maintenance actions as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that helicopter. | | |
| Ref. Publications: | Airbus Helicopters Emergency ASB AS355-05.00.74 original issue, dated 06 July 2015. | | |
| | Airbus Helicopter AS355NP ALS Document, Revision 004, dated 03 July 2014. | | |
| | The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD. | | |
| Remarks: | If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD. | | |
| | The results of the safety assessment have indicated the need for immediate publication and notification, without the full public consultation process. | | |
| | Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate, EASA. E-mail: <u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>. | | |
| | For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (ESBESB) - Aéroport de Marseille, Provence 13725 Marignane Cedex – France Telephone: + 33 (0) 12 85 97 97, Fax: + 33 (4) 85 99 66 E-mail: <u>Directive.technical-support@airbus.com</u>. | | |