



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0022

Issued: 08 February 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):

AS 332 helicopters

Effective Date: 22 February 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 52 – Doors – Cabin Sliding Plug Doors / Emergency Jettisoning System – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale)

Applicability:

AS 332 C, AS 332 C1, AS 332 L and AS 332 L1 helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers, if equipped with a cabin sliding plug door modified in accordance with Airbus Helicopters (AH) modification (MOD) 0722338, except helicopters that embody Eurocopter MOD 0725366 in production, or Eurocopter AS332 SB No. 52.00.28 in service.

Reason:

During a scheduled inspection/test of the jettisoning mechanism of the cabin lateral sliding plug door, failure of an emergency jettisoning test of a door was reported. Subsequent investigation of the affected mechanism revealed that the cable of the jettison handle interfered with the cable clamps.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to jamming of the door jettisoning mechanism, preventing jettisoning of the affected door in an emergency situation, possibly obstructing the evacuation of occupants.



To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS332-52.00.56, to provide inspection instructions. Eurocopter developed MOD 0725366 introducing improved design of the jettisoning system for cabin lateral sliding plug doors, available for in service application through AS332 SB No. 52.00.28.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the jettisoning mechanism of the cabin lateral sliding plug doors, left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) sides, and, depending on finding(s), accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Repetitive Inspections:

- (1) During the next jettisoning test of the cabin lateral sliding plug door, or within 110 flight hours after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first and, thereafter, during accomplishment of each maintenance task listed in paragraph 1.E.2 of AH ASB AS332-52.00.56, inspect the jettisoning mechanism of the LH and RH cabin lateral sliding plug doors in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3 of AH ASB AS332-52.00.56.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as described in AH ASB AS332-52.00.56, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3 of AH ASB AS332-52.00.56.

Terminating Action:

- (3) Accomplishment of corrective action(s) on a helicopter, as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, does not constitute terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that helicopter.
- (4) Modification of a helicopter in accordance with the instructions of Eurocopter AS322 SB No. 52.00.28 constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB AS332-52.00.56 original issue, dated 30 January 2017.

Eurocopter AS332 SB No. 52.00.28 original issue, 15 December 1994 or Revision 1, dated 29 April 1998.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents 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:
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