



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0025

Issued: 14 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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AW109SP helicopters

Effective Date: 21 February 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.005

Foreign AD: Not Applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment & Furnishings – Hoist – Modification / Inspection / Rotorcraft Flight Manual Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters (formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A. Helicopter Division, AgustaWestland S.p.A.)

Applicability:

AW109SP helicopters, all serial numbers.

Reason:

During a dummy load check of the rescue hoist of an AW109SP helicopter, the hoist cable became snagged behind a nut of the hoist handle assembly and broke following load application.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to the detachment of an external load or person from the helicopter hoist, possibly resulting in personal injury, or injury to persons on the ground.

To address this possible unsafe condition, Leonardo issued Bolletino Tecnico (BT) SP109-110, providing instructions to inspect and modify the rescue hoist, and to amend the pre-flight inspection.



For the reason stated above, this AD requires amendment of the applicable Rotorcraft Flight Manual Supplement (RFMS), inspection of the hoist handle assembly and of the cabin doorframe and, depending on findings, inspection of the rescue hoist cable and accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s). This AD also requires modification of the hoist handle assembly.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Note 1: Leonardo BT109SP-110 is hereafter referred to as “the BT” in this AD.

Note 2: For the purpose of this AD, Group 1 helicopters are those that have a bolt Part Number (P/N) AN3C6 as attaching means of the rescue hoist handle. Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have any bolt P/N AN3C6 as attaching means of the rescue hoist handle.

Note 3: Supplement 5 of Document 109G0040A019 (AW109SP RFM – Optional Equipment Supplements), and Supplement 9.2-5 of Document 109G0040A021 (AW109SP RFM – Optional Equipment Supplements REGA), are hereafter collectively referred to as ‘the applicable RFMS’ in this AD.

RFMS Amendment:

- (1) For a helicopter equipped with rescue hoist P/N 109-B810-16-101 or P/N 109-B810-16-201: Before the next hoist operation after the effective date of this AD, amend the applicable RFMS (see Note 3 of this AD) in accordance with the instructions of Part III of the BT, or as specified in Appendix 1 of this AD, inform all flight crews and, thereafter, operate the helicopter accordingly.

The RFMS amendment, as required by this paragraph, may be accomplished by inserting a copy of Appendix 1 of this AD into the applicable RFMS.

Inspection:

- (2) For a helicopter equipped with rescue hoist P/N 109-B810-16-101 or P/N 109-B810-16-201: Within 10 flight hours (FH) after the effective date of this AD, visually inspect the hoist handle assembly and the upper part of cabin doorframe in accordance with the instructions of Part I of the BT.

Corrective action(s)

- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, any damage is found, before next hoist operation, repair the hoist handle assembly and/or the upper part of cabin doorframe, as applicable, and inspect the hoist cable in accordance with the instructions of Part I of the BT.
- (4) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any damage is found, before next hoist operation, replace the hoist cable in accordance with the instructions of Part I of the BT.



Modification:

- (5) For a helicopter equipped with rescue hoist P/N 109-B810-16-101 or P/N 109-B810-16-201: Within 25 FH after the effective date of this AD, modify the attaching means of rescue hoist handle on the rescue hoist support in accordance with the instructions of Part II of the BT.

Part(s) Installation:

- (6) Do not install on any helicopter a bolt having P/N AN3C6 as attaching means of the rescue hoist handle, as required by paragraph (6.1) or (6.2) of this AD, as applicable.

(6.1) For a Group 1 helicopter: After modification of that helicopter as required by paragraph (5) of this AD.

(6.2) For a Group 2 helicopter: From the effective date of this AD.

- (7) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install on any helicopter a rescue hoist kit P/N 109-B810-16-101 or P/N 109-B810-16-201, provided that, concurrently with that installation, the applicable RFMS of the helicopter is amended in accordance with the instructions of Part III of the BT or Appendix 1 of this AD, and the rescue hoist support is modified in accordance with the instructions of Part II of the BT, as required by this AD.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 109SP-110 original issue, dated 13 February 2017.

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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, Customer Support & Services
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Appendix 1

(this check must be performed after the check at point 8 and before the check at point 9 of the “NORMAL PROCEDURES – PRE FLIGHT CHECK – PILOT’S PREFLIGHT CHECK- Cockpit Interior”, as described in the applicable RFMS)

ADDITIONAL DAILY PRE-FLIGHT CHECK

8.A  Hoist cable: check reeled-out cable for condition.

