



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0209

Issued: 21 September 2018

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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 (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

AS 332 helicopters

Effective Date: 05 October 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Fuel Draining System – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH), formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale

Applicability:

AS 332 C, AS 332 C1, AS 332 L, AS 332 L1 and AS 332 L2 helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those which embody modification 0726383.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The applicable ASB: AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS332-53.01.62.

Reason:

Closure of fuel tank drains with plugs has been implemented during production of AS 332 helicopters. It has been identified that this closure disregards compliance with an airworthiness certification requirement. In case of fuel leakage in flight, a closed fuel drain creates the risk of fuel accumulation and/or migration to an adjacent area. This area can contain electrical equipment susceptible of constituting a source of ignition.

This condition, if not corrected, could result in ignition of fuel vapours, resulting in a fire and consequent damage to the helicopter, or injury to its occupants.



To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the applicable ASB to remove the drain plugs from the fuel tank compartments located under the bottom structure.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires modification of the draining system of fuel tank compartments.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

During the next scheduled maintenance check or within 110 flight hours, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, modify the helicopter in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3 of the applicable ASB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-53.01.62 original issue dated 07 June 2018.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (EBSESB) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane Cedex, France; Telephone +33 (4) 42 85 97 97; Fax +33 (4) 42 85 99 66; E-mail: Directive.technical-support@airbus.com.

