

Subject: AW169/AW189 Tail Rotor Flight Control Periodical inspection

Dear Customer / Operator,

The purpose of this letter is to provide a follow-up about the results of periodical inspections of the back-end castellated nut of the Tail Rotor (TR) servo-actuator and the periodical detailed inspection of the TR duplex bearing reported from Operators during the application of SB 169-135 and SB 189-224.

Analysis on the returned components from in service fleet are continuing, and the evidences collected so far have highlighted the need of an update to the inspection requirements provided through SB 169-135 and SB 189-224. For this reason, Leonardo Helicopters will shortly release two Service Bulletins (SB 169-148 and SB 189-237) that will update the inspection scheme as follows:

- Checks for grease leakage and absence of particles in grease (if present) have been combined with the periodical detailed inspection of the slippage marking of the castellated nut installed on the back end of the TR servo-actuator.
- An additional periodical roughness check, to be performed after removal of the Spider Slider Assembly, to isolate the bearing itself and to verify its ability to rotate out of the installation (smooth rotation by finger).

As ancillary function to corroborate the aforementioned inspection scheme, a monitoring capability of the TR Duplex Bearing behavior is being studied for implementation within the HUMS system via a dedicated SB.

Leonardo Helicopters wishes to take this opportunity to kindly remind the importance of returning the SB 169-148 and SB 189-237 compliance form in a timely manner, respectively to:

AW169 Product Support Engineering (pse_aw169.mbx.aw@leonardocompany.com);

AW189 Product Support Engineering (pse_aw189.mbx.aw@leonardocompany.com).

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We trust that this advanced information is appreciated by our Operators concerning the continuous attention put on this subject by Leonardo Helicopters, with the aim to improve helicopter operations guaranteeing the maximum level of support to our Products.

Should you need any additional information, please contact AW169 Product Support Engineering or AW189 Product Support Engineering, opening a Technical Query through our dedicated Leonardo Portal channel or sending a message to the aforementioned addresses.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours Sincerely,

Gabriele Bordino

Head of Product Support Engineering
Leonardo Helicopters