



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0022

Issued: 01 February 2019

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 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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AB139, AW139, AW169 and AW189 helicopters

Effective Date: 05 February 2019

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.006, EASA.R.509 and EASA.R.510

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 64 – Tail Rotor – Duplex Bearings – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A., AgustaWestland S.p.A., Agusta S.p.A.

Applicability:

AB139 and AW139 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n).

AW169 helicopters, all s/n.

AW189 helicopters, all s/n.

Definitions:

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

Affected part:

For AB139 and AW139 helicopters: Tail Rotor (TR) Duplex bearings, having Part Number (P/N) 3G6430V00153 and s/n 16181 to 16225 inclusive, s/n 16237 to 16259 inclusive, s/n 17101 to 17110 inclusive, s/n 17182 to 17194 inclusive, s/n 17204 to 17217 inclusive and s/n 17251 to S/N 17260 inclusive.

For AW169 and AW189 helicopters: TR Duplex bearings, having P/N 4F6430V00551 and s/n 17101 to 17121 inclusive, s/n 16165 to 16169 inclusive and s/n 16171.

Serviceable part: A TR duplex bearing that is not an affected part.



The applicable ASB: Leonardo Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 139-571, ASB 169-134 and ASB 189-221, as applicable.

Reason:

A report was received of failed roughness check of TR duplex bearing. The investigation identified a quality non-conformity in one of the 18 balls installed in the bearing. A batch of TR duplex bearing was identified that may be similarly affected.

This condition, if not corrected, could possibly result, depending on the flight condition, in loss of control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo issued the applicable ASB, providing instructions replacement of affected parts.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of each affected part with serviceable part. This AD also prohibits installation of an affected part on a helicopter.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Replacement:

- (1) Within the 30 flight hours or 30 days, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, replace the affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the applicable ASB.

Part Installation:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected part on any helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters SB 139-571 original issue dated 01 February 2019.

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters SB 169-134 original issue dated 01 February 2019.

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters SB 189-221 original issue dated 01 February 2019.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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. 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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters.
E-mail: cse.aw139.AW@leonardocompany.com.
E-mail: PSE_AW169.MBX.AW@leonardocompany.com, or
E-mail: PSE_AW189.MBX.AW@leonardocompany.com.

