



NAirworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2023-0127

Issued: 27 June 2023

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 or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] 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):

EC 130 and AS 350 helicopters

Effective Date: 11 July 2023

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.008

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 63 – Main Rotor Drive – Main Gear Box Engine Coupling – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

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

Applicability:

EC 130 T2 and EC 130 B4 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n) having a helicopter date of manufacture, as defined in this AD, before 13 February 2023; and

AS 350 B, AS 350 B1, AS 350 B2, AS 350 BA, AS 350 BB, AS 350 B3 helicopters, all s/n having a helicopter date of manufacture before 15 May 2023; and

AS 350 D helicopters, all s/n having a helicopter date of manufacture before 15 May 2023, except helicopters equipped with a Lycoming engine.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) EC130-63A026 and ASB AS350-63.00.38, as applicable.

Helicopter date of manufacture: The date of issuance of the EASA Form 52 (or equivalent), which is referenced in AH documentation.



Reason:

Inverted installations of the engine flange on the main gear box (MGB) engine coupling have been reported on AH final assembly line.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, may lead to loss of power transmission to MGB and main rotor, possibly resulting in loss of control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB, as defined in this AD, providing inspection and corrective actions instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the MGB engine coupling installation and, depending on findings, corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 165 flight hours or 13 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the installation of the MGB engine coupling in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, an incorrect installation, as defined in the ASB, is identified, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective actions in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Reporting:

- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, an incorrect installation, as defined in the ASB, is identified, within 30 days after the inspection, or after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, report the inspection results to AH. This can be done using the Response Form available in the ASB.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB EC130-63A026 original issue dated 31 May 2023.

AH ASB AS350-63.00.38 original issue dated 31 May 2023.

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. This AD was posted on 05 June 2023 as PAD 23-064 for consultation until 19 June 2023. The Comment Response Document can be found in the [EASA Safety Publications Tool](#), in the compressed (zipped) file attached to the record for this AD.



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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (Technical Support), E-mail: TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com, or visit Airbus World: Technical Request Management: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com>.

