

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

released by DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'AVIATION CIVILE

Inspection and/or modifications described below are mandatory. No person may operate a product to which this Airworthiness Directive applies except in accordance with the requirements of this Airworthiness Directive.

Translation of 'Consigne de Navigabilité' ref. : 1999-151-001(A) R1
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

EUROCOPTER

EC 120 helicopters

Tail Gearbox (ATA 04, 65)

1. EFFECTIVITY:

EC 120 B helicopters equipped with tail gearbox P/No.:

C652A0101051 or C652A0101052 with the following serial numbers:

- M101 - M102 - M103 - M 104 - M105 - M106 - M107 - M108 - M109 - M110 - M111 - M112 - M113
- M114 - M115 - M116 - M117 - M118 - M119 - M120 - M121 - M122 - M123 - M124 - M126.

2. REASONS:

This Airworthiness Directive is issued following a case of significant binding of the tail rotor pitch change control rod which may lead to loss of control of the aircraft.

Revision 1 of this Airworthiness Directive covers the conversion of EC 120 Service Bulletin No. 01.001 into EC 120 Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. 04A001 with no change to the technical content.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE:

3.1. The following measures (unless already taken) are rendered mandatory within 50 flying hours from the effective date of the original issue of this Airworthiness Directive and at the latest by August 31, 1999:

- Remove the tail rotor hub and the tail gearbox and measure the operating load of the pitch change control rod in compliance with the instructions described in paragraph 2B(1) of referenced EUROCOPTER EC 120 B Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) No. 04A001.

3.2. Analysis of the Results

- a) If the load measured is equal to or below 1.2 daN: no further action is required. Reinstall the tail gearbox as per work card 65.21.00, 4-2 and the tail rotor hub as per work card 64.21.00, 4-2.

- b) If the load measured is greater than 1.2 daN: before resuming flights, replace the tail gearbox with a tail gearbox that is not affected by this Airworthiness Directive or that meets the measurement requirements described above.

REF.: EUROCOPTER EC 120 Alert Service Bulletin No. 04A001.

This Revision 1 replaces the original AD 1999-151-001(A) dated April 07, 1999.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original AD : On receipt from **APRIL 07, 1999**
Revision 1 : **SEPTEMBER 15, 2001**