

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. : 2001-073-061(A)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

EUROCOPTER

AS 355 helicopters

Tail rotor hub pitch-change plate bearing (ATA 65)

1. EFFECTIVITY

AS 355 helicopters E, F, F1, F2 and N helicopters fitted with tail rotor hub pitch-change plate SNR bearing part number 6010F234M16 (704A33-651-190).

2. REASON

This Airworthiness Directive (TAD) is issued subsequent to some cases of cracks on some AS 350 B3 tail rotor hub pitch-change bearings, which can lead to a mal-functioning of the plate and lead to a loss of control of the helicopter.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIME

Following the effective date of this AD, the actions hereafter are rendered mandatory:

3.1. Bearing already fitted on AS 355 N

- 3.1.1. Functioning hours of the bearing less than 270 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing at the latest when it reaches 300 hours.
- 3.1.2. Functioning hours of the bearing between 270 hours included and 600 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing within 30 flying hours.
- 3.1.3. Functioning hours of the bearing between 600 hours included and 900 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing within 20 flying hours.
- 3.1.4. Functioning hours of the bearing equal to or above 900 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing within 10 flying hours.

3.2. Bearing already fitted on AS 355 E, F, F1 and F2

- 3.2.1.** Functioning hours of the bearing less than 1150 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing at the latest when it reaches 1200 hours.
 - 3.2.2.** Functioning hours of the bearing between 1150 hours included and 1550 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing within 50 flying hours.
 - 3.2.3.** Functioning hours of the bearing equal to or above 1550 hours on the effective date of this AD: remove the bearing within 10 flying hours.
- 3.3.** The bearing has the following life limit: 300 hours (if mounted on AS 355 N helicopter) and 1200 hours (if mounted on AS 355 E, F, F1, F2 helicopters).
- 3.4.** In case of transfer of the bearing from one AS 355 version to another, apply transfer rules defined in chapter 05.99 page P8 of the master servicing manual.

REF.: EUROCOPTER Telex Alert AS 355 n° 01.00.46.

This AD has been the subject of a telegraphic issue on February 23, 2001.

EFFECTIVE DATE :

On receipt of a telegraphic AD dated FEBRUARY 23, 2001