



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION LETTER

TIL N°            T-189-22-001  
DATE:            March 17, 2022  
REV.:             A

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To:            AW189 Owners / Operators / Service Centres

**SUBJECT:        AFCS behaviour with Avionic Software Phase 5 or 6**

Helicopters Affected:    AW189

Dear Customer / Operator,

With the present letter, Leonardo Helicopters (LH) wishes to provide advanced information on the Flight Management System (FMS) Pilot's Guide next revision that is going to be released to introduce the applicable information related to a specific Automatic Flight Control System (AFCS) helicopter behaviour.

Following an event reported by a SAR Operator, dedicated evaluation was conducted by LH and AFCS performance degradation was observed in specific flight conditions, for helicopters equipped with Avionic Software Phase 5 or 6. In details, in case that the Transition Down (TD) mode is selected when flying in a SAR pattern with FMS Autonomous Ground Speed Control (NGSPD) mode already engaged, an undesired pitch oscillation behaviour could be observed.

At the same time, temporary activation of the WTR caption on the PFD could occur. The activation does not result in the engagement of the related mode.

As precautionary measure LH has reviewed all the applicable AW189 FMS Pilot's Guides, section "SAR Steering in Groundspeed" pertaining to the SAR Patterns, to introduce appropriate notes aiming to inform that if a TD procedure is desired when flying in NGSPD mode, the NGSPD mode shall first be replaced by Ground Speed (GSPD) mode before engaging the TD mode (by pressing TD pushbutton on Autopilot Control Panel).

In addition, LH is currently working to modify the AW189 AFCS accordingly at the next favourable AW189 Avionic Software Phase and to avoid any undesired pitch oscillation behaviour.

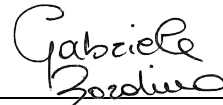
## AFCS behaviour with Avionic Software Phase 5 or 6

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Should you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to refer to LH Engineering Support team ([engineering.support.lhd@leonardo.com](mailto:engineering.support.lhd@leonardo.com)).

Yours Sincerely,



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Gabriele Bordino  
Head of Product Support Engineering