
AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

For the reasons set out in the background section, the CASA delegate whose signature appears below issues the following Airworthiness Directive (AD) under subregulation 39.1 (1) of CAR 1998. The AD requires that the action set out in the requirement section (being action that the delegate considers necessary to correct the unsafe condition) be taken in relation to the aircraft or aeronautical product mentioned in the applicability section: (a) in the circumstances mentioned in the requirement section; and (b) in accordance with the instructions set out in the requirement section; and (c) at the time mentioned in the compliance section.

Agusta A109 Series Helicopters

AD/A109/36

Damper Assembly of Main Rotor Hub

4/2003

Applicability: Agusta 109E helicopters fitted with damper part number 109-0111-06-103 with serial numbers up to 816 inclusive, excluding those with an "L" suffix in the serial number.

Requirement: For dampers with serial numbers up to and including S/N 574:

1. Carry out inspection of the dampers in accordance with Agusta Bollettino Tecnico 109EP-2, compliance instructions Part 1.
2. Carry out the modification of the dampers in accordance with Agusta Bollettino Tecnico 109EP-2, compliance instructions Part 2.

For dampers with serial numbers up to and including S/N 816:

3. Carry out inspection of the dampers for slippage in accordance with Agusta Bollettino Tecnico 109EP-2, compliance instructions Part 3.

Note: Italian AD 2002-187 refers.

Compliance:

1. Effective 17 April 2003, Prior to the first flight of the day until requirement 2 is carried out.
2. Within 5 flight hours from the effective date of this Directive.
3. Prior to the first flight of the day.

This Airworthiness Directive becomes effective on 17 April 2003.

Background: Loosening of the locking system on the damper assemblies has led to an increase in helicopter vibration. Modification to the dampers followed up with subsequent inspection of the dampers aim to prevent the loosening of the dampers.



James Coyne
Delegate of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority
10 March 2003