



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0137

Issued: 01 August 2017

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 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, 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 agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

AW169 helicopters

Effective Date: 15 August 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.509

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 67 – Rotors Flight Control – Collective Fixed Friction Force – Check

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. (formerly Finmeccanica Helicopter Division, AgustaWestland)

Applicability:

AW169 helicopters, serial numbers (s/n) 69007, 69009, 69010 to 69028 inclusive, 69030 to 69035 inclusive, 69041 to 69046 inclusive, 69048, 69049 and 69051.

Reason:

An occurrence was reported where uncontrolled collective oscillation was experienced on an AW169 helicopter while in hover. Investigation determined that the event was possibly generated by a collective stick friction force value lower than the minimum value indicated in the acceptance test procedure.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to a hard landing, possibly resulting in damage to the helicopter and injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Leonardo issued Service Bulletin (SB) 169-057 (hereafter referred to as 'the SB' in this AD), providing appropriate instructions.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time check of the collective fixed friction force check and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).



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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Check:

- (1) Within 30 flight hours or 30 calendar days, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, check the collective fixed friction force value in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the check as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the measured force value is outside the acceptance test procedure limits, before next flight, contact Leonardo for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters SB 169-057 original issue, dated 26 July 2017.

The use of later approved revisions of this document 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. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, Customer Support & Services, Product Support Engineering & Licenses DPT, Via Giovanni Agusta 520, 21017 Cascina Costa di Samarate (VA) – Italy, Tel.: +39 0331 255036, Fax: +39 0331 225988, E-mail: PSE_AW169.MBX.AW@leonardocompany.com.

