Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0052

Issued: 14 March 2016

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:
EADS-CASA

Type/Model designation(s):
C-212 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 28 March 2016

TCDS Number(s): Spain No. 01-82

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 27 – Flight Controls – Rudder Control System / Torque Tube Shaft – Inspection

---

Manufacturer(s):
EADS-CASA; Construcciones Aeronáuticas S.A. (CASA)

Applicability:
C-212-CB, C-212-CC, C-212-CD, C-212-CE, C-212-CF, C-212-DD, C-212-DF, C-212-VA, C-212-DE and C-212-EE aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason:
Occurrences were reported of finding a damaged and cracked rudder torque tube shaft, Part Number (P/N) 212-46237-01. Subsequent investigation determined that this damage occurred after parking of the aeroplane during a heavy wind gust, without having set the flight control surfaces in locked position.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to structural failure of the affected rudder torque tube shaft, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, EADS-CASA issued Alert Operators Transmission (AOT) AOT-C212-27-0001 to provide inspection instructions, and Service Bulletin (SB) SB-212-27-0058 providing modification instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the affected rudder torque tube shaft, and introduces an optional modification, which constitutes terminating action for those repetitive inspections.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):
Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

(1) For aeroplanes equipped with a rudder torque tube shaft P/N 212-46237-01: Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD and, thereafter, before next flight after each occurrence as defined in paragraph 3.1.1.1 of EADS-CASA AOT-C212-27-0001, inspect the rudder torque tube shaft in accordance with the instructions of EADS-CASA AOT-C212-27-0001.

(2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of EADS-CASA AOT-C212-27-0001.

(3) Inspection and corrective action on an aeroplane, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of EADS-CASA All Operator Letter (AOL) AOL-212-037 Revision 1, is an acceptable method to comply with the initial actions as required by paragraph (1) and (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.

(4) Modification of an aeroplane by replacing the rudder torque tube shaft P/N 212-46237-01 with an improved part in accordance with the instructions of EADS-CASA SB-212-27-0058 constitutes terminating action for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Ref. Publications:
EADS-CASA AOT-C212-27-0001 original issue, dated 15 July 2015.

EADS-CASA AOL-212-037 Revision 1, dated 11 April 2014.

EADS-CASA SB-212-27-0058 original issue, dated 25 April 2014.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents 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. This AD was posted on 20 January 2016 as PAD 16-005 for consultation until 17 February 2016. The Comment Response Document can be found at http://ad.easa.europa.eu.

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:
Airbus Defence and Space
Services / Engineering Support
e-mail: MTA.TechnicalService@airbus.com.
Fax: +34 91 585 3127

For US operators, contact alternatively:
e-mail: TechnicalSupport@airbusmilitaryna.com.