



## Airworthiness Directive

**AD No.:** 2019-0073

**Issued:** 28 March 2019

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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 (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

### Design Approval Holder's Name:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

### Type/Model designation(s):

AB139 and AW139 helicopters

**Effective Date:** 11 April 2019

**TCDS Number(s):** EASA.R.006

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Supersedure:** None

## ATA 64 – Tail Rotor – Full Ice Protection System Tail Rotor Blades – Inspection / Replacement

### Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A, AgustaWestland S.p.A., Agusta S.p.A.; and AgustaWestland Philadelphia Corporation, formerly Agusta Aerospace Corporation

### Applicability:

AB139 and AW139 helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n), if equipped with the Full Ice Protection System (FIPS).

### Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

**Affected part:** Tail rotor blades (TRB), having Part Number (P/N) 4G6410A00131, P/N 4G6410A00132 or P/N 4G6410A00133.

**Serviceable part:** A TRB which is not an affected part; or an affected part which is new (never previously installed); or an affected part which was previously installed and, before reinstallation, has passed an inspection (no defect found) in accordance with the instructions of the ASB; or an affected part that passed the conditional inspection specified in AW139 AMPI Maintenance Manual Chapter 05 Data Module 39-A-00-70-00-22A-28AA-A dated 28 February 2019.



**The ASB:** Leonardo Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 139-580.

**Groups:** Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected part installed. Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected part installed.

**Reason:**

Occurrences have been reported of damage found on the TRB leading edge of AW139 helicopters equipped with the FIPS. The investigation determined that this damage had been caused by the heat developed from an electrical short circuit which occurred in flight in the TRB heater mat root area.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to loss of a TRB, possibly resulting in reduced control of the helicopter.

Prompted by this occurrence, Leonardo issued the ASB providing inspection instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of each affected part and, depending on findings, replacement of any damaged TRB with a serviceable part.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

**Inspection:**

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 50 flight hours after the effective date of this AD, inspect each affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

**Corrective Action(s):**

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) this AD, burn signs or other damage are found, before next flight, replace that part with a serviceable part, as defined in this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

**Credit:**

- (3) An affected part that, before the effective date of this AD, passed an inspection in accordance with the instructions of AW139 AMPI Maintenance Manual Chapter 05 Data Module 39-A-00-70-00-22A-28AA-A dated 28 February 2019 is compliant with the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

**Part Installation:**

- (4) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install on any helicopter an affected part, provided that it is a serviceable part, as defined in this AD.

**Ref. Publications:**

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters SB 139-580 original issue dated 19 March 2019.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.



AW139 AMPI Maintenance Manual Chapter 05 Data Module 39-A-00-70-00-22A-28AA-A dated 28 February 2019.

**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](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu).
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters. E-mail: [cse.aw139.AW@leonardocompany.com](mailto:cse.aw139.AW@leonardocompany.com).

