



EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued pursuant to Canadian Aviation Regulation (CAR) 521.427. No person shall conduct a take-off or permit a take-off to be conducted in an aircraft that is in their legal custody and control, unless the requirements of CAR 605.84 pertaining to ADs are met. Standard 625 - Aircraft Equipment and Maintenance Standards Appendix H provides information concerning alternative means of compliance (AMOC) to ADs.

Number:

CF-2018-18

Effective Date:

16 July 2018

ATA:

65

Type Certificate:

H-107

Subject:

Tail Rotor Drive – Loose Tail Rotor Gearbox

Applicability:

Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited (BHTCL) model 429 Helicopters, serial numbers 57001 through 57321, 57323 through 57341, 57343 through 57346, 57348, and 57350.

Compliance:

As indicated below, unless already accomplished.

Background:

There have been two reports of tail rotor gearbox assemblies found loose on the gearbox support. This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to structural damage and possible loss of control of the helicopter.

Corrective Actions:

- A. Before next flight, as of the effective date of this AD, inspect the tail rotor gearbox for looseness in accordance with Part I of the Accomplishment Instructions of BHTCL Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 429-18-40, dated 6 July 2018. If looseness is noted during the inspection, before next flight, contact BHTCL Product Support Engineering for an approved disposition.
- B. Within 5 hours air time or 7 days, whichever occurs first, from the effective date of this AD, perform a torque check of the tail rotor gearbox retaining hardware in accordance with Part II of the Accomplishment Instructions of BHTCL Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) 429-18-40 dated 6 July 2018. If movement of any of the six retaining nuts is noted during the inspection, before next flight, contact BHTCL Product Support Engineering for an approved disposition.

The use of later revisions of ASB 429-18-40 approved by the Chief, Continuing Airworthiness, Transport Canada, are acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Authorization:

For the Minister of Transport,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Rémy Knoerr
Chief, Continuing Airworthiness
Issued on 11 July 2018

Contact:

Ross McGowan, Continuing Airworthiness, Ottawa, telephone 888-663-3639, facsimile 613-996-9178 or e-mail AD-CN@tc.gc.ca or any Transport Canada Centre.