



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0258

Issued: 16 December 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:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

AS 365 N2 and AS 365 N3 helicopters

Effective Date: 30 December 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.105

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 33 – Lights – Strobe Light Harnesses – Inspection/Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale).

Applicability:

AS 365 N2 and AS 365 N3 helicopters, having a manufacturer serial number (MSN) and/or configuration as defined in Appendix 1 of this AD.

Reason:

Occurrences were reported of interference between a lower strobe light harnesses and the helicopter structure or the adjacent fuel tank support. The reported occurrences were detected on in-production helicopters. The subsequent investigation of the affected design determined that the electrical harnesses of the lower strobe light installation were manufactured with additional length, necessary to facilitate the removal/installation of the assembly. Consequently, harnesses may have been improperly secured to the helicopter structure.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to chafing, thereby creating an ignition source in an area adjacent to the inboard fuel tank vapour space, possibly resulting in a fuel tank fire.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus Helicopters (AH) introduced in-production modification (MOD) 365P084778.00, available for in-service embodiment through AH Alert Service



Bulletin (ASB) AS365-05.00.73. That ASB also provides inspection instructions for affected helicopters.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the lower strobe light electrical harness and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s). This AD also requires modification of the affected harness routing.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 50 flight hours (FH) after the effective date of this AD, inspect the lower strobe light electrical harness routing in accordance with the instructions of paragraphs 3.A and 3.B of AH ASB AS365-05.00.73 Revision 1.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any damage is detected, as specified in AH ASB AS365-05.00.73, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of AH ASB AS365-05.00.73 Revision 1.

Modification:

- (3) Concurrently with the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, or with accomplishment of the corrective action(s) as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, as applicable, modify the lower strobe light electrical harness routing in accordance with the instructions of paragraphs 3.A and 3.B of AH ASB AS365-05.00.73.

Credit:

- (4) Accomplishment of an inspection, and depending on the finding(s), corrective action(s), as well as the modification, before the effective date of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of AH ASB AS365-05.00.73 at original issue is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraphs (1),(2) and (3) of this AD, provided that within 50 FH after the effective date of this AD, the helicopter passes the inspection in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3B.2.f of AH ASB AS365-05.00.73 Revision 1.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB AS365-05.00.73 original issue 03 November 2016 or Revision 1 dated 12 December 2016.

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: Airbus Helicopters (ESBESB) – Aeroport de Marseille Provence, 1375 Marignane Cedex, France, Telephone: +33 (4) 12 85 97 97, Fax: +33 (4) 85 99 66 E-mail: Directive.technical-support@airbus.com.



Appendix 1 – Affected helicopters

MSN 6374, 6498, 6512, 6535, 6590, 6593, 6597, 6604, 6618, 6619, 6624, 6625, 6629, 6646, 6648, 6649, 6650, 6654, 6657, 6667, 6677, 6688, 6692, 6705, 6709, 6710, 6713, 6724, 6726, 6738, 6740, 6743, 6744, 6745, 6747, 6749, 6751, 6754, 6756, 6766, 6767, 6768, 6772, 6781, 6782, 6783, 6786, 6795, 6809, 6810, 6816, 6824, 6826, 6827, 6829, 6830, 6833, 6835, 6841, 6846, 6879, 6884, 6907, 6911, 6959, 6964, 6967, 6970, 6973, 6979, 6984, 6987, 7008, 7027, 9003, and 9010, equipped with lower strobe light, or

All helicopters MSN that have embodied AH MOD 365P640211.00 in production, or have been modified in service in accordance with AH Service Bulletin (SB) 33.00.10, or

All helicopters MSN, customized to any of AH drawings: 365P001116.02 or 365P001137.15 or 365P001140.00 or 365P001143.02 or 365P001169.00 or 365P001175.00 or 365P001191.00 or 365P001212.00 or 365P001316.00 or 365P001321.00 or 365P001324.00 or 365P001332.00 or 365P001435.00 or 365P001479.00.

