

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2023-0213

Issued: 08 December 2023

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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS DEUTSCHLAND GmbH

Type/Model designation(s):

MBB-BK117 helicopters

Effective Date: 22 December 2023

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.010

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Hook Damper – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH) Deutschland GmbH formerly Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH; Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.; and Airbus Helicopters Inc., formerly American Eurocopter LLC

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 C-2, D-2, D-3 and D-3m helicopters, all variants, all serial numbers (s/n).

Definitions:

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

The ASB: AH Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) MBB-BK117-25-97-0004.

Affected hoist hook: Forged D-LOK hook, Part Number (P/N) 42315-488 or Slide-LOK hook P/N 42315-490.

Affected hook damper: Hook damper P/N 44307-480-1, P/N 44307-480-2 or P/N 44307-491.

Affected hook nut: Nut P/N 44307-461.

The updated installation procedure: Installation of a hoist hook to a hook damper in accordance with the instructions of the ASB, accomplishment procedure 25-97-0004, 933, sections 4.2 and 4.3;

or in accordance with the instructions of a Component Maintenance Manual which includes the technical content of the ASB, accomplishment procedure 25-97-0004, 933, sections 4.2 and 4.3.

Affected assembly: Affected hoist hook attached to an affected hook damper, except if the hook has been attached to the hook damper in accordance with the instructions of the updated installation procedure, as defined in this AD.

Groups:

Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected assembly installed.

Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected assembly installed.

Reason:

Occurrences of damage to the threaded part of affected hoist hook and to the threads of the affected hook nut have been reported.

Investigation identified galling as the root cause of the damage.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of the affected assembly, possibly resulting in loss of the hoist load and injury to persons.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB, providing instructions for inspection of affected assemblies and an improved procedure to install the affected hoist hook.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of affected assemblies, and provides criteria for installation of parts on a helicopter.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Before next hoist operation after the effective date of this AD, inspect the affected hoist hook and the affected hook nut in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any deficiency, as identified in the ASB, is detected, before next hoist operation, replace the affected hook nut and the affected hoist hook with serviceable ones, and install the hoist hook in accordance with the instructions of the updated installation procedure.

Part(s) Installation:

- (3) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected assembly, or any higher assembly having an affected assembly installed, on a helicopter.



- (4) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected hoist hook on a helicopter, provided that the installation is accomplished in accordance with the instructions of the updated installation procedure.

Ref. Publications:

AH Emergency ASB MBB-BK117-25-97-0004 initial issue dated 05 December 2023.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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. 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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH, Industriestrasse 4, 86609 Donauwörth, Federal Republic of Germany;
Web portal: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com>
E-mail: customersupport.helicopters@airbus.com.

