(b) Affected ADs


(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Turbomeca S.A. Arriel 2D turboshaft engines.

(d) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by further cases of deterioration of hydromechanical metering unit (HMU) rotating components that have been reported before the HMU reached the replacement interval in AD 2013–01–07 (78 FR 6725, January 31, 2013). We are issuing this AD to prevent an uncommanded in-flight shutdown of the engine, and possible loss of the helicopter.

(e) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(i) Replace inter-pump complete sleeve, and inspect the female splines and HMU high-pressure (HP) pump and low-pressure (LP) pump male splines for corrosion, scaling, cracks and wear, at the following:

(i) Before exceeding 400 HMU operating hours since new if the HMU has 375 or fewer operating hours on the effective date of this AD; or

(ii) Within 25 HMU operating hours if the HMU has more than 375 operating hours on the effective date of this AD; and

(iii) Thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 400 HMU operating hours.

(iv) Use Section 2.B.(1) of the Instructions to be Incorporated of Turbomeca S.A. Alert Mandatory Service Bulletin (MSB) No. A292 73 2847, Version B, dated March 6, 2013, to accomplish the replacement and visual inspection required by paragraph (e)(1) of this AD.

(v) If the HMU does not pass the initial or repetitive inspection requirements by paragraph (e)(1) of this AD, then before next flight, replace the affected HMU with an HMU eligible for installation.

(2) Replace the rotating components of the HP and LP pumps, including the complete sleeve, or replace the HMU with an HMU eligible for installation at the following:

(i) Before exceeding 800 HMU operating hours since new; or

(ii) Within 800 HMU operating hours since last replacement of LP and HP fuel pumps rotating components; whichever occurs later.

(iii) Thereafter, replace the LP and HP fuel pump rotating components within every 800 HMU operating hours.

(iv) Use Section 2.B.(1) of the Instructions to be Incorporated of Turbomeca S.A. Alert MSB No. A292 73 2847, Version B, dated March 6, 2013, to accomplish the replacements required by paragraph (e)(2) of this AD.

(f) Credit for Previous Actions

If before the effective date of this AD, you complied with Turbomeca S.A. Alert MSB No. A292 73 2847, Version A, dated May 29, 2012, you met the initial inspection requirements in paragraph (e) of this AD. However, you must still comply with the repetitive inspection requirements of this AD.

(g) Installation Prohibition

After the effective date of this AD, do not install any HMU onto any engine, or install any engine onto any helicopter, unless the HMU is in compliance with this AD.

(h) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

The Manager, Engine Certification Office, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Use the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19 to make your request.

(i) Related Information


(3) For service information identified in this AD, contact Turbomeca, 40220 Tarnos, France; phone: 33 (0) 59 74 40 00; telex: 570 042; fax: 33 (0) 59 74 45 15. You may view this service information at the FAA, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 781–238–7125.

Issued in Burlington, Massachusetts, on June 3, 2013.

Colleen M. D’Alessandro,
Assistant Manager, Engine & Propeller Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

For service information identified in this proposed AD, contact Frederick Zink, Aerospace Engineer, Engine & Propeller Directorate, 12 New England Executive Park, Burlington, MA 01803; phone: 781–238–7779; fax: 781–238–7199; email: frederick.zink@faa.gov.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited (Bell) Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Bell Model 407B/N helicopters. This proposed AD would require installing a placard beneath the NR/NP dual tachometer and revising the limitations section of the rotorcraft flight manual (RFM). This proposed AD is prompted by several incidents of third stage engine turbine wheel failures, which were caused by excessive vibrations at certain engine speeds during steady-state operations. The proposed actions are intended to alert pilots to avoid certain engine speeds during steady-state operations, prevent failure of the third stage engine turbine, engine power loss, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by August 6, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Docket: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.

• Fax: 202–493–2251.

• Mail: Send comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery: Deliver to the “Mail” address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Exposing the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov or in person at the Docket Operations Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this proposed AD, the economic evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Operations Office (telephone 800–647–5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

For service information identified in this proposed AD, contact Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited, 12,800 Rue de l’Avenir, Mirabel, Quebec J7J1R4; telephone (450) 437–2862 or (800) 363–8023; fax (450) 433–0272; or at http://www.bellcustomer.com/files/. You may view the referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Chinh Vuong, Aviation Safety Engineer, Safety Management Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137; telephone (817) 222–5110; email chinh.vuong@faa.gov.
agreement with Canada, TC, its technical representative, has notified us of the unsafe condition described in its AD. We are proposing this AD because we evaluated all known relevant information and determined that an unsafe condition is likely to exist or develop on other helicopters of the same type design.

Related Service Information
Bell has issued ASB 407–05–67, which contains procedures for installing a placard on the instrument panel below the main rotor RPM (Np)/power turbine RPM (Np) dual tachometer and for inserting the RPM changes into the flight manual.

Proposed AD Requirements
This proposed AD would require installing a placard on the instrument panel below the NR/NP dual tachometer and revising the Operating Limitations section of the Model 407 RFM to limit steady-state operations between speeds of 68.4% to 87.1%.

Differences Between This Proposed AD and the TC AD
The TC AD requires compliance within 10 calendar days; the proposed AD requires compliance within 30 days.

Costs of Compliance
We estimate that this proposed AD would affect 472 helicopters of U.S. Registry. Based on an average labor rate of $85 per hour, we estimate that operators may incur the following costs in order to comply with this AD.

Amending the RFM would require about 0.5 work-hours, for a cost per helicopter of $43 and a cost to U.S. operators of $20,296. Installing the decal would require about 0.2 work-hours and required parts would cost $20, for a cost per helicopter of $37 and a cost to U.S. operators of $17,464. Based on these estimates, the total cost of this proposed AD would be $80 per helicopter and $37,760 for the U.S. operator fleet.

Authority for This Rulemaking
Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA’s authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. “Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs,” describes in more detail the scope of the Agency’s authority.

We are issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in “Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements.” Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in interstate commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings
We determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed, I certify this proposed regulation:
1. Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866;
2. Is not a “significant rule” under the DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979);
3. Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska to the extent that it justifies making a regulatory distinction; and
4. Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

We prepared an economic evaluation of the estimated costs to comply with this proposed AD and placed it in the AD docket.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39
Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by Reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment
Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES
1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

§ 39.13 [Amended]
2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive (AD):


(a) Applicability
This AD applies to Bell Model 407 helicopters, serial numbers 53000 through 53844, certificated in any category.
(b) Unsafe Condition
This AD defines the unsafe condition as a third stage turbine vibration, which could result in turbine failure, engine power loss, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter.

(c) Comments Due Date
We must receive comments by August 6, 2013.

(d) Compliance
You are responsible for performing each action required by this AD within the specified compliance time unless it has already been accomplished prior to that time.

(e) Required Actions
Within 30 days:
(1) Revise the Operating Limitations section of the Model 407 Rotorcraft Flight Manual by inserting Section 1, Operating Limitations, pages 1–6 and 1–14, of Bell BHT–407–FM–1, revision 3, dated April 26, 2005.
(2) Remove placard part number (P/N) 230–075–213–105, if installed.
(3) Install placard P/N 230–075–213–111, or equivalent, directly below the NR/NP dual tachometer.

(f) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)
(1) The Manager, Safety Management Group, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: Chinh Vuong, Aviation Safety Engineer, Safety Management Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137; telephone (817) 222–5110; email chinh.vuong@faa.gov.

(2) For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 119 operating certificate or under a 14 CFR part 91, subpart K, we suggest that you notify your principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office or certificate holding district office before operating any aircraft complying with this AD through an AMOC.

(g) Additional Information
(1) Bell Alert Service Bulletin No. 407–05–67, dated June 8, 2005, which is not incorporated by reference, contains additional information about the subject of this AD. For service information identified in this AD, contact Bell Helicopter Textron Canada Limited, 12,800 Rue de l’Avenir, Mirabel, Quebec, H1B1R4; telephone (450) 437–2862 or (800) 363–8023; fax (450) 433–0272; or at http://www.bellcustomer.com/files/. You may review a copy of the service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

(2) The subject of this AD is addressed in Transport Canada AD No. CF–2004–09R1, dated July 4, 2005.

(b) Subject
Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 7250; Turbine Section.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on May 29, 2013.

Kim Smith,
Directorate Manager, Rotorcraft Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2013–13477 Filed 6–6–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter France Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: We propose to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for Eurocopter France (Eurocopter) Model AS332L2 and EC225LP helicopters. This proposed AD would require inspecting the torque value of the bolts that secure the front and rear main gearbox (MGB) suspension bar attaching fittings, and retorquing the bolts to the proper value if the torque value is out of tolerance. This proposed AD would also require, if the torque value is out of tolerance by more than 20 percent, inspecting the bolts, frames, and related equipment for a crack and repairing or replacing them if cracked. This proposed AD is prompted by reports of cracks on Frame 5295 of Model AS332L2 helicopters. These actions are intended to detect the torque loss of the bolts that secure the MGB bar attaching fittings and to prevent cracks that could lead to failure of the MGB supporting structure, detachment of the MGB, and loss of helicopter control.

DATES: We must receive comments on this proposed AD by August 6, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments by any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Docket: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically.
• Fax: 202–493–2251.
• Mail: Send comments to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001.
• Hand Delivery: Deliver to the “Mail” address between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Examining the AD Docket
You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov or in person at the Docket Operations Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this proposed AD, the economic evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The street address for the Docket Operations Office (telephone 800–647–5527) is in the ADDRESSES section. Comments will be available in the AD docket shortly after receipt.

For service information identified in this proposed AD, contact American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 N. Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, TX 75052; telephone (972) 641–0000 or (800) 232–0323; fax (972) 641–3775; or at http://www.eurocopter.com/techpub. You may review the referenced service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas 76137.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Roach, Aviation Safety Engineer, Regulations and Policy Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137; telephone (817) 222–5110; email gary.b.roach@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited
We invite you to participate in this rulemaking by submitting written comments, data, or views. We also invite comments relating to the economic, environmental, energy, or federalism impacts that might result from adopting the proposals in this document. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. To ensure the docket does not contain duplicate comments, commenters should submit only one copy of written comments, or if comments are filed electronically, commenters should submit only one time.

We will file in the docket all comments that we receive, as well as a report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerning this proposed rulemaking. Before acting on this proposal, we will consider all comments we receive on or before the closing date for comments. We will consider comments filed after the comment period has closed if it is possible to do so without incurring