DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39


RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH (Eurocopter) Model BO–105A, BO–105C, BO–105S, BO–105LS A–1, BO–105LS A–3, EC135 P1, EC135 P2, EC135 P2+, EC135 T1, EC135 T2, EC135 T2+, MBB–BK 117 A–1, MBB–BK 117 A–3, MBB–BK 117 A–4, MBB–BK 117 B–1, MBB–BK 117 B–2, MBB–BK 117 C–1, and MBB–BK 117 C–2 helicopters with certain part-numbered cantilever assemblies, cyclic stick locking devices, or cyclic stick holder assemblies installed. This AD requires modifying and identifying the cyclic stick cantilever or lock. This AD was prompted by pilots inadvertently taking off with the cyclic locked. The actions of this AD are intended to prevent a pilot taking off with the cyclic in the locked position, which could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

DATES: This AD is effective July 26, 2013.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain documents listed in this AD as of July 26, 2013.

ADDRESSES: For service information identified in this AD, contact Airbus, Airworthiness Office—EIAS, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France; telephone +33 5 61 93 36 96; fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; email account.airworthiness@airbus.com; Internet http://www.airbus.com.

(817) 222–5110; email matthew.fuller@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion

On January 10, 2013, at 78 FR 2223, the Federal Register published our notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), which proposed to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that would apply to Eurocopter Model BO–105A, BO–105C, BO–105S, BO–105LS A–1, BO–105LS A–3, EC135 P1, EC135 P2, EC135 P2+, EC135 T1, EC135 T2, EC135 T2+, MBB–BK 117 A–1, MBB–BK 117 A–3, MBB–BK 117 A–4, MBB–BK 117 B–1, MBB–BK 117 B–2, MBB–BK 117 C–1, and MBB–BK 117 C–2 helicopters with certain part-numbered cantilever assemblies, cyclic stick locking devices, or cyclic stick holder assemblies installed. The NPRM proposed to require modifying and identifying the cyclic stick cantilever or lock. The proposed requirements were intended to prevent a pilot taking off with the cyclic in the locked position, which could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, issued EASA AD No. 2008–0113, dated June 10, 2008, to correct an unsafe condition for the Model EC135, EC635 and MBB–BK 117 C–2 helicopters. EASA advised of several cases where takeoff was executed with a locked cyclic stick on EC135 series helicopters, which may lead to loss of control of the helicopter. EASA also advises that the stick-locking device installed on Model BO 105 and MBB–BK 117C–2 helicopters has a similar function as the device installed on the EC135 series helicopters. Therefore, EASA issued AD No. 2009–0079, dated April 1, 2009, to require modification of the cyclic-stick locking/centering device for the Model BO 105 and MBB–BK 117 helicopters. After EASA AD No. 2009–0079 was issued, design ownership for the Model BO–105 LS A3 was transferred from Canada to Germany. Because
Transport Canada had not issued an AD prior to the transfer, EASA superseded AD No. 2009–0049 with AD No. 2010–0049, dated March 19, 2010, to include Model BO–105 LS A3 in its applicability. The EASA ADs also require amending the applicable Rotorcraft Flight Manual (RFM).

Comments
We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD, but we did not receive any comments on the NPRM (78 FR 2223, January 10, 2013).

FAA’s Determination
These helicopters have been approved by the aviation authority of Germany and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to our bilateral agreement with Germany, EASA, its technical representative, has notified us of the unsafe condition described in the AD. We are issuing this AD because we evaluated all information provided by EASA and determined the unsafe condition exists and is likely to exist or develop on other helicopters of these same type designs and that air safety and the public interest require adopting the AD requirements as proposed.

Differences Between This AD and the EASA AD
This AD does not apply to Model BO–105D, BO–105DB, BO–105DB–4, BO–105DBS–4, BO–105DBS–5, BO–105DS or the military Model EC635 helicopters because these models are not type certified in the United States. The EASA AD requires amending the RFM; this AD does not because the RFM revisions have been incorporated by the type certificate holder.

Related Service Information
Eurocopter has issued the following alert service bulletins (ASB) for each of its model helicopters:

These ASBs specify procedures to modify the cantilever assembly or the cyclic stick locking device, which allows neutral positioning and centering of the cyclic stick without the locking feature.

Costs of Compliance
We estimate that this AD will affect 416 helicopters of U.S. Registry.
We estimate that operators may incur the following costs in order to comply with this proposed AD. It will take about .5 work hour to modify the cyclic stick lock at $85 per work hour with no cost for parts. This results in a total estimated cost of $43 per helicopter and $17,680 for the 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 air 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 helicopters identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings
This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD will 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 above, I certify that this AD:
(1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866;
(2) Is not a “significant rule” under 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 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.

Adoption of the Amendment
Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

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

(a) Applicability
This AD applies to the following Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH (Eurocopter) model helicopters, with a listed cantilever assembly, cyclic stick locking device, or cyclic stick holder assembly part number (P/N) installed, certificated in any category:
(2) Model BO 105 LS A–3 helicopters with a cantilever assembly, P/N 105–40139, installed.
(3) Model EC135 P1, EC135 P2, EC135 P2+, EC135 T1, EC135 T2, and EC135 T2+ helicopters, serial number (S/N) 0005 up to and including S/N 0069 except S/Ns 0076, 0093, 0098, 0099, 0102, 0104, 0106, 0108, 0110, 0111, 0113, 0114, 0116, 0117, and 0119, with a cyclic stick locking device, P/N L670M1045101, L670M1045102, L670M1045104, L670M1045105, L670M1045106, or L670M1045107, and Pin, P/N L311M1038205 or L311M1099205, installed.
(5) Model MBB–BK117 C–2 helicopters, S/N 9004 up to and including S/N 9230, with a cyclic stick locking device, P/N B856M1011101, and Pin, P/N L311M1038205 or L311M1099205, installed.

(b) Unsafe Condition
This AD defines the unsafe condition as inadvertent locking of the cyclic prior to take off, which could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

(c) Effective Date
This AD becomes effective July 26, 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 100 hours time-in-service:
3. For Model EC135 P1, EC135 P2, EC135 P2+, EC135 T1, EC135 T2, and EC135 T2+ helicopters, modify and identify the cyclic stick cantilever by following the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraphs 3.B. through 3.C., of Eurocopter ASB EC135–67A–015, dated April 14, 2008.

(f) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)  
1. The Manager, Safety Management Group, FAA, may approve AMOCs for this AD. Send your proposal to: Matt Fuller, Senior Aviation Safety Engineer, Safety Management Group, Rotorcraft Directorate, FAA, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137; telephone (817) 222–5110; email matthew.fuller@faa.gov.
2. For operations conducted under a 14 CFR part 119 operating certificate or under 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  

(b) Subject  
Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 6710 Main Rotor Control.

(i) Material Incorporated by Reference  
1. The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.
2. You must use this Eurocopter service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.
   (c) ASB EC135–67A–015, dated April 14, 2008.

Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration  

14 CFR Part 39  

RIN 2120–AA64  
Airworthiness Directives; Cessna Aircraft Company Airplanes  

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.  

ACTION: Final rule.  

SUMMARY: We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Cessna Aircraft Company (Cessna) (previously COLUMBIA or LANCAIR) Models LC40–550FG, LC41–550FG, and LC42–550FG airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports that during maximum braking, if the brakes lock up and a skid occurs, a severe oscillatory yawing motion or “wheel walk” may develop, which could result in further significant structural damage to the airplane. This AD requires insertions into the pilot’s operating handbook (POH) and the airplane maintenance manuals (AMM) regarding proper use of the brakes and inspection of the aft fuselage. We are issuing this AD to correct the unsafe condition on these products.  

DATES: This AD is effective July 26, 2013.  

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the AD as of July 26, 2013.  

ADDRESSES: For service information identified in this AD, contact Cessna Aircraft Company, Customer Service, P.O. Box 7706, Wichita, Kansas 67277; telephone: (316) 517–5800; fax (316) 517–7271; Internet: www.cessnasupport.com. You may review copies of the referenced service information at the FAA, Small Airplane Directorate, 901 Locust, Kansas City, Missouri 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (816) 329–4148.

Exchanging the AD Docket  
You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at http://www.regulations.gov or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (phone: 800–647–5527) is Document Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Park, Aerospace Engineer, Wichita Aircraft Certification Office (ACO), FAA, 1801 Airport Road, Wichita, KS 67209; phone: (316) 946–4123; fax: (316) 946–4107; email: gary.park@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:  
Discussion  
We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 to include an AD that would apply to the specified products. That