



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0226

Issued: 17 November 2017

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 332, EC 225, AS 365 and EC 155 helicopters

Effective Date: 01 December 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.002 and EASA.R.105

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2014-0204 dated 11 September 2014, including its Correction dated 12 September 2014.

ATA 11 – Placards and Markings – Inspection / Installation

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (formerly Eurocopter, Eurocopter France, Aerospatiale)

Applicability:

AS 332 C, AS 332 C1, AS 332 L, AS 332 L1, AS 332 L2, EC 225 LP, AS 365 N2, AS 365 N3, EC 155 B and EC 155 B1 helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers equipped with at least one energy absorbing seat listed in Appendix 1 of this AD, except AS 332 and EC 225 helicopters embodying one of the Airbus Helicopters (AH) modifications listed in Table 1 of this AD for each of these seats.

Table 1 – Installation of Label Prohibiting Storage under the Seat

Helicopter Models	Modification	Seat
AS 332 C, C1, L, L1, L2	0728251 or 332P084159	Cabin
AS 332 C, C1, L, L1, L2	0728352 or 332P084160	Cockpit
AS 332 C, C1, L, L1, L2	0728403 or 332P084161	3rd Crew Member
EC 225 LP	0728251 or 332P084159	Cabin
EC 225 LP	0728352 or 332P084160	Cockpit



Reason:

During certification of an energy absorbing seat with a new Part Number (P/N), it was observed that the label which provides information to keep the space under the seat free of any object was not systematically installed on a helicopter.

This condition, if not corrected, may prompt occupants to stow objects under the seat, thereby reducing the efficiency of the energy-absorbing function of the seat, possibly resulting in reduced survivability of occupant(s) in case of an accident.

To address this potential unsafe condition, and pending a final solution, AH issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) AS332-01.00.85, ASB EC225-04A012, ASB AS365-01.00.66 and ASB EC155-04A013 to provide instructions for inspection and corrective action.

Consequently, EASA issued AD 2014-0204 (later corrected) to require a one-time inspection for the presence of warning label(s) and, depending on findings, installation of label(s) prohibiting stowage of any object under an energy-absorbing seat.

Since that AD was issued, AH has designed a new label for AS 332 and EC 225 helicopters and issued Revision 01 of ASB AS332-01.00.85 and ASB EC225-04A012, as well as ASBs AS332-25.03.16, AS332-25.03.41, AS332-25.03.42, EC225-25A179 and EC225-25A203 to provide instructions for installation of the new label.

For the reason described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2014-0204, which is superseded, and requires installation of new placards for AS 332 and EC 225 helicopters. This AD also amends the Applicability (adding AS 332 C and AS 332 L to the list of affected models, and removing helicopters which have already received new placards) and corrects the P/N of the Type "ST107" seat.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within the compliance time as listed in Table 2 of this AD, inspect the helicopter for the presence of a readable label(s), displayed in a conspicuous place and clearly visible to each occupant, in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3B of AH ASB AS332-01.00.85, ASB EC225-04A012, ASB AS365-01.00.66 or ASB EC155-04A013, as applicable to helicopter model.

Table 2 – Inspection for Presence of a Label

Helicopter Models	Compliance Time
AS 332 C1, L1, L2 EC 225 LP AS 365 N2, N3 EC 155 B, B1	Within 110 flight hours (FH) or 30 days, whichever occurs first after 25 September 2014 [the effective date of EASA AD 2014-0204]
AS 332 C, L	Within 110 FH or 30 days, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD



Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, a missing or unreadable label is identified, or a label is not located in a conspicuous place, before next flight, install a locally made label prohibiting stowage of any object under an energy-absorbing seat in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3B of AH ASB AS332-01.00.85, ASB EC225-04A012, ASB AS365-01.00.66 or ASB EC155-04A013, as applicable to helicopter model.

Modification:

- (3) For AS 332 and EC 225 helicopters: Within 110 FH or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, install a label prohibiting stowage of any object under an energy-absorbing seat in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3B of AH ASB AS332-25.03.16, ASB AS332-25.03.41, ASB AS332-25.03.42, ASB EC225-25A179 or ASB EC225-25A203, as applicable to helicopter model.

Credit:

- (4) An AS332 or EC 225 helicopter delivered after 07 September 2017 is not affected by the requirements of this AD, provided that no seat as listed in Appendix 1 of this AD has been installed on that helicopter since its delivery.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-01.00.85 original issue dated 26 August 2014, or Revision 01 dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB EC225-04A012 original issue dated 26 August 2014, or Revision 01 dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-25.03.16 original issue dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-25.03.41 original issue dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB AS332-25.03.42 original issue dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB EC225-25A179 original issue dated 07 September 2017.

Airbus Helicopters ASB EC225-25A203 original issue dated 07 September 2017.

The use of later approved revisions of these documents 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 (EBSESB) – Aéroport de Marseille Provence 13725 Marignane Cedex, France;
Telephone +33 (4) 42 85 97 97; Fax +33 (4) 42 85 99 66;
E-mail: Directive.technical-support@airbus.com.



Appendix 1 – Affected Seats

Seat Manufacturer	Seat Type	Generic P/N (see Note)
Socea Sogerma	ST102	2510102-xx-xx
	ST107	2510107-xx-xx
	ST120	2520120-xx
SICMA Aero Seat Zodiac Seats France	192	192xx-xx-xx
	159	1591718-xx 159110
Fischer + Entwicklungen	H110	9606-()-()-()
	H140	0520-()-()-()
	H160	0718-()-()-()-()
	185-410	9507-()-()-()
	236/406	9608-()-()-()

Note: “xx” or “-()-()-()” may represent any alphanumeric value

