

2010-10-16 Bell Helicopter Textron and Agusta S.P.A.: Amendment 39- 16295. Docket No. FAA-2010-0487; Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-032- AD.

Applicability: Bell Helicopter Textron Model 205A, 205A-1, 205B, 212, 412, 412EP, and 412CF and Agusta S.p.A. Model AB412, AB412EP helicopters, certificated in any category, with Aeronautical Accessories, Inc. (AAI) Low Skid Landing Gear Forward Crosstube (Crosstube), part number (P/N) 212-320-103, with a serial number (S/ N) prefix of "AA" and an S/N of 574 through 628, installed.

Note 1: Crosstube, P/N 212-320-103, is also included as part of AAI Low Skid Gear Assembly Kits, P/N 412-320-500 and 412-320-502.

Compliance: Required as indicated, unless done previously.

To prevent failure of a crosstube and subsequent collapse of the landing gear, do the following:

(a) Within 25 hours time-in-service, replace any affected crosstube with an airworthy crosstube.

Note 2: AAI Alert Service Bulletin No. AA-10012, dated March 5, 2010, references the AAI Instructions for Continued Airworthiness AA-01136, which contains guidance on replacing the crosstubes.

(b) To request a different method of compliance or a different compliance time for this AD, follow the procedures in 14 CFR 39.19. Contact the Manager, Rotorcraft Certification Office: ATTN: DOT/FAA Southwest Region, Martin R. Crane, ASW-170, Aviation Safety Engineer, Rotorcraft Directorate, Rotorcraft Certification Office, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137, telephone (817) 222-5170, fax (817) 222-5783, for information about previously approved alternative methods of compliance.

(c) The Joint Aircraft System/Component (JASC) Code is 3250: Landing Gear System.

(d) This amendment becomes effective on June 8, 2010.