

2010-11-51 Eurocopter France: Amendment 39-16396. Docket No. FAA- 2010-0782; Directorate Identifier 2010-SW-053-AD.

Applicability: Model AS350B, BA, B1, B2, C, D, and D1 helicopters and Model AS355E, F, F1, F2, and N helicopters, with a tail gearbox (TGB) control lever, part number (P/N) 350A33-1058-00, P/N 350A33-1058-01, P/N 350A33-1058-02, or P/N 350A33-1058-03, that is not marked with an "X" near the P/N, installed, certificated in any category.

Compliance: Required as indicated.

To detect cracking in a TGB control lever and prevent failure of the TGB control lever, loss of tail rotor control, and subsequent loss of control of the helicopter, accomplish the following:

(a) Within 10 hours time-in-service (TIS), unless accomplished previously, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 10 hours TIS, visually inspect the affected TGB control lever for cracking in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B.1.a., in Eurocopter Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (EASB) No. 05.00.62, Revision 1, dated April 23, 2010, for Model AS350 helicopters or EASB No. 05.00.57, Revision 1, dated April 23, 2010, for Model AS355 helicopters.

(b) If a crack is found, before further flight, remove and replace the cracked TGB control lever with an airworthy TGB control lever in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B.2., in the EASB appropriate for your model helicopter.

(c) Either of the following options constitutes a terminating action for the inspection requirements of this AD:

(1) Replace a TGB control lever with an airworthy TGB control lever that is marked with an "X" near the P/N; or

(2) Strip the rework area "B" as shown in Figure 4 of each EASB and perform a dye-penetrant inspection on that area for a crack. If no crack is found, rework and mark the TGB control lever in accordance with paragraph 2.B.3.b. of the EASB appropriate for your model helicopter, except you are not required to contact Eurocopter France. If a crack is found, before further flight, remove and replace the cracked TGB control lever with an airworthy TGB control lever in accordance with the Accomplishment Instructions, paragraph 2.B.2., in the EASB.

Note 1: One Eurocopter EASB contains four different service bulletin numbers but only portions of 2 EASBs are being incorporated.

Note 2: Installing a reinforced TGB control lever, P/N 350A33- 1524-00 or P/N 350A33-1526-00, that does not need to be marked with an "X" constitutes compliance with paragraph (c) of this AD.

(d) 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, Safety Management Group, FAA, ATTN: J.R. Holton, Jr., Aviation Safety Engineer, ASW-112, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Fort Worth, Texas 76137, telephone (817) 222-4964, fax (817) 222- 5961, for information about previously approved alternative methods of compliance.

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with 14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199 to operate the helicopter to a location where the inspection requirements of paragraph (a) of this AD can be accomplished.

(f) The Joint Aircraft System/Component (JASC) Code is 6720: Tail Rotor Control System.

(g) Inspecting, replacing the control lever or removing, reworking, and replacing the control lever shall be done in accordance with the specified portions of Eurocopter Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (EASB) No. 05.00.62, Revision 1, dated April 23, 2010, for Model AS350 helicopters or EASB No. 05.00.57, Revision 1, dated April 23, 2010, for Model AS355 helicopters. The Director of the Federal Register approved this incorporation by reference in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from American Eurocopter Corporation, 2701 Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, Texas 75053-4005, telephone (800) 232-0323, fax (972) 641-3710, or at <http://www.Eurocopter.com>. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 2601 Meacham Blvd., Room 663, Fort Worth, Texas, or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call 202-741-6030, or go to: http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal_regulations/ibr_locations.html.

(h) This amendment becomes effective on September 2, 2010, to all persons except those persons to whom it was made immediately effective by Emergency AD 2010-11-51, issued May 11, 2010, which contained the requirements of this amendment.

Note 3: The subject of this AD is addressed in European Aviation Safety Agency (France) Emergency AD No. 2010-0082-E, dated April 27, 2010.