EASA

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EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

AD No.: 2013-0228-E

Date: 23 September 2013

Note: This Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 on behalf of the European Community, 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 EU 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with EC 2042/2003 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 [EC 2042/2003 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [EC 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

EURCOPTER DEUTSCHLAND GmbH

None

Type/Model designation(s):

EC 135 and EC 635 helicopters

TCDS Number: EASA.R.009

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure:

ATA 67	Rotor Flight Controls – Main Rotor Actuator – Identification / Replacement
Manufacturer(s):	Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH (ECD), Eurocopter España S.A., Eurocopter S.A.
Applicability:	EC 135 P1 (CDS), EC 135 P1 (CPDS), EC 135 P2 (CPDS), EC 135 P2+, EC 135 T1 (CDS), EC 135 T1 (CPDS), EC 135 T2 (CPDS), EC 135 T2+, EC 635 T1 (CPDS), EC 635 T2+ and EC 635 P2+ helicopters, all serial numbers.
Reason:	A possible stiffness has been detected in the input kinematics of the main rotor actuators.
	Further analyses and tests conclude that such stiffness might develop only within the first operating hours after assembly.
	This condition, if not corrected, could induce lateral or longitudinal flight oscillations, possibly resulting in reduced control of the helicopter.
	To address this potential unsafe condition, ECD issued Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) EC135-67A-026, providing instructions for the identification and replacement of affected actuators (depending on part number, number of accumulated flight hours and tests recorded in the actuator log card).
	For the reasons described above, this AD requires the identification and replacement of the affected lateral and longitudinal actuators.
Effective Date:	25 September 2013

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Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):	Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:
	(1) Before next flight after the effective date of this AD, verify if the lateral and/or longitudinal actuator are affected by checking the actuators' log cards to determine the part number (P/N) and serial number (S/N) of the longitudinal and lateral actuators in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 1.A.1 (b) of ECD ASB EC135-67A-026.
	Note: Actuators with one of the following entries in the log card are not affected: a. "10 flight hours running-in test iaw. VA0310TFIM13 - Test result: passed" b. "10 flight hours running-in test iaw. TN-ETMHG-2013-004 - Test result: Passed" c. "Actuator affected by ASB EC135-67A-026, but already used without
	problems for more than 20 Fh"
	(2) If, determined as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the installed longitudinal actuator and/or the installed lateral actuator are affected, before next flight, do the following actions:
	(2.1) For actuators having completed less than 20 flight hours time since new (TSN), since repair (TSR) or since overhaul (TSO), replace each affected actuator with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 3.B.1. (b) of ECD ASB EC135-67A-026.
	(2.2) For actuators having completed 20 flight hours TSN, TSR or TSO or more without problems, enter the following text in the log card of the actuator:
	"Actuator affected by ASB EC135-67A-026, but already used without problems for more than 20 Fh"
	 (3) From the effective date of this AD, installation of a longitudinal actuator P/N L673M20A1008 and/or a lateral actuator P/N L673M20A1011 is allowed, provided the actuators are not affected as defined in paragraph (1) of this AD.
Ref. Publications:	ECD ASB EC135-67A-026 original issue dated 17 August 2013.
	The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.
Remarks:	 If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
	2. The results of the safety assessment have indicated the need for immediate publication and notification, without the full public consultation process.
	 Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: <u>ADs@easa.europa.eu</u>.
	 For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH, Industriestrasse 4, 86607 Donauwörth, Germany Telephone: +49 (0)151 1422 8976, Fax: +49 (0)906 71 4111.