



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0261

Issued: 21 December 2016

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:

LEONARDO S.p.A.

Type/Model designation(s):

A109 and AW109 helicopters

Effective Date: 04 January 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.005

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 26 – Fire Protection – Fire Extinguisher Bottles – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters (formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A. Helicopter Division, AgustaWestland S.p.A, Agusta S.p.A.)

Applicability:

A109LUH, A109E, A109S and AW109SP helicopters, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Reason:

A fractured bypass outlet assembly (red), part of the fire extinguishing bottle Part Number (P/N) 27300-1, has been found on an AW109SP helicopter during maintenance operations.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could jeopardise the capability to extinguish fires in the engine area, possibly resulting in damage to the helicopter and injury to the occupants.

Due to similarity of design, other helicopter models can be affected by the same unsafe condition.

Prompted by this finding, Leonardo issued Bollettino Tecnico (BT) 109L-088, BT 109EP-152, BT 109S-073 and BT 109SP-108, as applicable to helicopter model, hereafter collectively referred to as the “applicable BT” in this AD, providing inspection instructions.



For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the bypass outlet assembly (red) and, depending on findings, replacement of fire extinguisher bottle.

This AD is considered an interim action and further AD action may follow.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within 25 flight hours (FH) or 3 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 200 FH or 12 months, whichever occurs first, visually inspect the bypass outlet assembly (red) of all fire extinguisher bottles P/N 27300-1 in accordance with the instructions of the applicable BT.

Note 1: Fire extinguisher bottles P/N 27300-1 are installed with the following engine fire extinguisher kit P/N:

Helicopter model	Engine fire extinguisher kit P/N
A109LUH	109-0811-39-105
A109E	109-0811-39-103
A109S	109-0811-39-107
AW109SP	109-0811-39-109

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack is found on a bypass outlet assembly (red), before next flight, replace the affected fire extinguisher bottle with a serviceable bottle in accordance with the instructions of the applicable BT.

Terminating Action:

- (3) None.

Part installation:

- (4) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install a fire extinguisher bottle P/N 27300-1 on a helicopter, provided it is new or, prior to installation, has passed an inspection in accordance with the instructions of the applicable BT.

Ref. Publications:

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 109L-088 original issue, dated 15 December 2016.

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 109EP-152 original issue, dated 15 December 2016.

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 109S-073 original issue, dated 15 December 2016.

Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters BT 109SP-108 original issue, dated 15 December 2016.

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. Inquiries 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: Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, Customer Support & Services
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