

Emergency Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2024-0206-E

Issued: 22 October 2024

Note: This Emergency Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):

H160-B helicopters

Effective Date: 24 October 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.516

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 62 – Main Rotor – Rotating Scissors Spherical Bearings – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH)

Applicability:

H160-B helicopters, all serial numbers (s/n).

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The EASB: AH Emergency Alert Service Bulletin (EASB) H160-62-34-0001.

Affected part: Rotating scissors spherical bearing, Part Number (P/N) U623A40T1007, all s/n except 0478, 0480, 0722, 0723, 0739, 0747, 0776, 0781, 0796, 0803, 0808 and 0810.

Serviceable part: Rotating scissors spherical bearing, P/N U623A40T1007, which are not an affected part; or which accumulated less than 300 flight hours (FH) since first installation on a helicopter; or which, after having accumulated 300 FH or more since first installation on a helicopter, passed an inspection (axial play equal or less than 0.10 mm) in accordance with the instructions of the EASB.

Groups: Group 1 helicopters are those that have an affected part installed. Group 2 helicopters are those that do not have an affected part installed.

Reason:

An occurrence was reported of excessive axial play of affected parts on a helicopter.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could result in reduced control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH issued the EASB, providing instructions for a one-time inspection of the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the affected parts and reporting of the inspection results; this AD also provides conditions for installation of affected parts.

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

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Inspection:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: For each affected part, within the compliance time as identified in Table 1 of this AD, measure the axial play of that affected part in accordance with the instructions of the EASB.

Table 1 - Compliance Time
(A or B, whichever occurs later)

A	Within 15 FH or 30 days, whichever occurs first after an affected part accumulated 300 FH since first installation on a helicopter
B	Within 15 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, it is determined that the axial play of an affected part is more than 0.10 mm, and equal or less than 0.15 mm, within 55 FH after that inspection, repeat the measurement of the axial play of that affected part and, thereafter, before next flight, replace that affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the EASB.
- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, it is determined that the axial play of an affected part is more than 0.15 mm, and equal or less than 0.20 mm, within 15 FH after that inspection, repeat the measurement of the axial play of that affected part and, thereafter, before next flight, replace that affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the EASB.



- (4) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, it is determined that the axial play of an affected part is more than 0.20 mm, before next flight, replace that affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the EASB.

Reporting:

- (5) Within 7 days after each measurement as required by paragraphs (1), (2) or (3) of this AD, as applicable, report the inspection results to AH. Using the Response Form attached to the EASB is an acceptable method to comply with this requirement.

Part(s) Installation:

- (6) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected part on a helicopter, provided it is a serviceable part and, thereafter, within 15 FH or 30 days, whichever occurs first after that affected part accumulated 300 FH since first installation on a helicopter, it is inspected as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, as applicable.

Ref. Publications:

AH EASB H160-62-34-0001 original issue dated 21 October 2024.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document 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. The results of the safety assessment have indicated the need for immediate publication and notification, without the full consultation process.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (Technical Support) at:
Web portal: <https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com> / Technical Requests Management, or
E-mail: TechnicalSupport.Helicopters@airbus.com, or Telephone: +33 (0)4 42 859 789.

