



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2025-0165

Issued: 29 July 2025

Note: This 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: 12 August 2025

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.516

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Main Gearbox Mobile Cowlings Rail Supports – 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 ASB: AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) H160-05-00-0005.

Affected parts: Main gearbox (MGB) right hand (RH) and left hand (LH) center rail support, Part Number (P/N) U711A7203106 and P/N U711A7213104, respectively, and MGB RH and LH rear rail support P/N U711A7203104 and P/N U711A7213102, respectively.

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

Reason:

An occurrence was reported of finding the MGB RH centre and rear rail support assemblies broken on a helicopter.



This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to loss of the cowling in flight, possibly causing an impact with the main rotor blades, which could result in loss of control of the helicopter.

To address this potential unsafe condition, AH published the ASB providing instructions for inspections of the centre and rear rail supports of the MGB mobile cowlings, and, depending on findings, for replacement.

For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the affected parts, and, depending on findings, replacement.

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:

Repetitive Inspections:

- (1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within the compliance time as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, and, thereafter at intervals not exceeding 55 flight hours (FH), inspect each affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Table 1 – Initial Inspection (see Note 1 of this AD)

Flight Hours	Compliance Time
Less than 145	Before exceeding 200 FH
145 or more	Within 55 FH after the effective date of this AD

Note 1: Unless specified otherwise, the FH indicated in Table 1 of this AD are those accumulated by the helicopter on the effective date of this AD, since its first flight.

Corrective Actions(s):

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack, as indicated in the ASB, is detected, accomplish the applicable corrective actions in accordance with the instructions of, and within the compliance time as specified in the ASB (see Note 2 of this AD). If, for a corrective action, no compliance time is specified in the ASB, accomplish that corrective action before next flight.

Note 2: The reporting to AH of inspection findings, as indicated in the ASB, is not part of the corrective actions requirement as specified in paragraph (2) of this AD.

Terminating Action(s):

- (3) None.

Part(s) Installation:

- (4) 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 that, before installation, it is determined that that part has no cracks and, thereafter, it is inspected as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.



Ref. Publications:

AH ASB H160-05-00-0005 original issue dated 23 June 2025.

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. 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. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the AD Number, to the E-mail address specified in below Remark 3, prior to 26 August 2025. Only if any comment is received during the consultation period, a Comment Response Document will be published in the [EASA Safety Publications Tool](#), in a compressed ('zipped') file, attached to the record for this AD.
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.

