Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2026-0228

Issued: 27 November 2026

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:	Type/Model designation(s):
AIRBUS HELICOPTERS DEUTSCHLAND GmbH	MBB-BK117 helicopters

Effective Date:	11 December 2026
TCDS Number(s):	EASA.R.010
Foreign AD:	Not applicable
Supersedure:	None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Rescue Winch Safety Cable – Removal

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Manufacturer(s):

Airbus Helicopters (AH); Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH; Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd.; and Airbus Helicopters Inc.

Applicability:

MBB-BK117 D-3 helicopters, serial numbers (s/n) 20001 to 20360 inclusive and s/n 21001 to 21999 inclusive.

Definitions:

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

The ASB: AH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) MBB-BK117-25-23-0004.

Affected parts: Safety cable brackets, Part Number D252M3032101, installed as part of the Operator Workstation (OWS) Manufacturer Part Number (MP/N) D252M3200051, MP/N D252M3200052, MP/N D252M3201051 or MP/N D252M3203051.

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.

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Reason:

An investigation has revealed that safety cable brackets on the OWS, which can be installed on the left-hand or right-hand side of the helicopter, were fitted with standard fasteners that have not been tested to required quality standards. Their failure could cause detachment of the safety cable.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to detachment of the safety cable, potentially resulting in the operator falling from the helicopter.

To address this unsafe condition, AH issued the ASB, to provide instructions for removal of the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires removal of those affected parts.

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:

Removal:

(1) For Group 1 helicopters: Within 250 flight hours or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, remove each affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB (see Note 1 of this AD).

Note 1: Removal of the brackets as required by paragraph (1) of this AD includes removal of the related safety cable, fixation rails, connecting hardware and placards.

Part(s) Installation:

(2) For Group 1 and Group 2 helicopters: From the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected part on any helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH ASB MBB-BK117-25-23-0004 original issue (Issue 001) dated 15 October 2026.

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 original issue of this AD was posted on 21 October 2026 as PAD 26-128 for consultation until 18 November 2026. The Comment Response Document can be found in the EASA Safety Publications Tool, in the 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.

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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.

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