Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 26-134

Issued: 11 November 2026

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) 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.

In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below.
All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation date indicated.

Design Approval Holder's Name:
AIRBUS HELICOPTERS

Type/Model designation(s):
EC 175 B helicopters

Effective Date: [TBD - standard: 14 days after AD issue date]

TCDS Number(s): EASA.R.150

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA – Rotorcraft Flight Manual – Limitations and Normal Procedures Section – Amendment

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Manufacturer(s):
Airbus Helicopters (AH)

Applicability:
AH EC 175 B helicopters, all serial numbers equipped with a Helionix v11 or v11.1 avionics suite.

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

The RFM Update: EC 175 B Rotorcraft Flight Manual (RFM), NGEN RN 8 and SUP. 1 NGEN RN 2.

Reason:
Following recent flight tests and further investigations, AH assessed that, under specific conditions, the helicopter's behaviour in case of OEI (one engine inoperative) with 'assisted take-off mode' selected in the Automatic Flight Control System (AFCS) could differ from the expected behaviour.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to a collision with the ground or water in case an OEI condition would occur during take-off.

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To address this potential unsafe condition, AH defined a new operational limitation, prohibiting the use of the 'assisted take-off modes'. This limitation and the related amended operational procedures are included in the RFM Update, as defined in this AD.

For the reason described above, this AD prohibits the use of the 'assisted take-off modes'.

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:

RFM Amendment:

(1) Starting from 30 days after the effective date of this AD, it is prohibited to use the 'assisted take-off modes' of the AFCS.

(2) Amendment of the RFM of a helicopter by incorporating the RFM Update is an acceptable method to comply with the requirement of paragraph (1) of this AD for that helicopter.

Ref. Publications:

AH EC 175 B RFM, NGEN RN 8 and SUP. 1 NGEN RN 2, dated 30 July 2026.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned document(s) is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 09 December 2026.

2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.

3. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this PAD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this PAD, 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 PAD 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.

4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Airbus Helicopters (Technical Support), Aéroport de Marseille Provence, 13725 Marignane Cedex, France, Telephone (+33 (0)4 42 859 797, Fax +33 (0)4 42 85 99 66; Web portal: https://airbusworld.helicopters.airbus.com / Technical Requests Management, Telephone +33 (0)4 42 85 97 89, or E-mail: support.technical-airframe.ah@airbus.com.

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