



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

Aviation Safety  
Aircraft Certification Service

10101 Hillwood Pkwy  
Fort Worth, TX, 76177

See Electronic Signature for Date

Reply  
Refer To: 762-25-00105

Mr. Mike May  
Sr Technical Representative AS350/355/EC130/120  
Airbus Helicopters Inc.  
2701 Forum Drive  
Grand Prairie, TX

Dear Mr. May:

**Subject:** Global Alternative Method of Compliance (AMOC) to Airworthiness  
Directive (AD) 2001-04-14

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) received your letter dated May 21, 2025, requesting FAA approval of a Global AMOC to paragraphs (a) and (b) of AD 2001-04-14 for your Airbus Helicopters Inc. AS350B, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350BA, AS350C, AS350D, AS350D1, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N series aircrafts. Additional information requested by the FAA was received on May 30, 2025.

AD 2001-04-14 supersedes an existing airworthiness directive (AD) for Societe Nationale Industrielle Aerospatiale (currently Eurocopter France) Model AS350 and AS355 series helicopters that currently requires inspecting the fuselage frame (frame) for a crack at the fuselage-to- tailboom interface and replacing or repairing, as necessary. That AD also requires a fastener torque check and retorquing, as necessary. This AD would increase the inspection interval from 1,200 hours time-in-service (TIS) to 2,500 hours or 6 years TIS, whichever occurs first to coincide with the maintenance manual and eliminate confusion and unnecessary costs. To compensate for the increase in the inspection interval, the initial inspection interval was reduced from 100 TIS to 30 hours TIS.

You are requesting approval of a Global AMOC to increase the compliance time to inspect the fuselage-to-tailboom attachment bolts from 30 hours to 35 hours TIS for a crack at the fuselage to tailboom interface and for replacement or installation of a tailboom. These requests are in accordance with your maintenance program per AS350 Master Service Manual (MSM) 05; 05-26-00, 53-10 Primary Structure. This manual has operators comply with a tailboom-to-fuselage junction torque check each time after the tailboom is installed at 30 hours TIS, with a 5 hour margin as an alternative to the required inspection method approved by the Branch Manager, Central Certification Branch (CCB), AIR-760.

Your proposal provides an acceptable level of safety since the 5-hour increase allows the operators to reach the limit of 30 hours TIS as indicated in AS350 (MSM) 05; 05-26-00, 53-10 Primary Structure. The increased TIS eliminates performing the inspection twice within the first 35 hours TIS after installation of the tailboom, avoiding potential discrepancies with recordkeeping. The FAA approves your Global AMOC proposal to paragraphs (a) and (b) of AD 2001-04-14 to increase the compliance time of inspection to the fuselage-to-tailboom attachment bolts to 35 hours TIS, including an increase to 35 hours TIS for replacing or reinstalling a tailboom.

All provisions of AD 2001-04-14 that are not specifically referenced above remain fully applicable and must be complied with accordingly.

In accordance with FAA Order 8110.103B, the following conditions apply:

- This approval is applicable only to your AS350B, AS350B1, AS350B2, AS350B3, AS350BA, AS350C, AS350D, AS350D1, AS355E, AS355F, AS355F1, AS355F2, AS355N series aircrafts.
- This approval is based on a procedure unique to your maintenance practices and is therefore not transferable with the aircraft to other operators.
- Before using this Global AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or if lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.
- The FAA will revoke this Global AMOC if the FAA later determines that this Global AMOC does not provide an acceptable level of safety.
- All provisions of FAA AD 2001-04-14 that are not specifically referenced above remain fully applicable and must be complied with accordingly.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Hung V. Nguyen, Aerospace Engineer, by telephone at (817)-222-5155, by email at [hung.v.nguyen@faa.gov](mailto:hung.v.nguyen@faa.gov), or Aryanna T. Sanchez, Aerospace Engineer, by telephone at (817)-222-4058, or by email at [aryanna.t.sanchez@faa.gov](mailto:aryanna.t.sanchez@faa.gov).

Sincerely,

*for* Paul Nguyen  
Manager, Central Certification Branch  
Compliance & Airworthiness Division  
Aircraft Certification Service

cc: Dan McCully, AIR-722 COS Program Manager

AIR-762:A.Sanchez:817-222-4058:H.Nguyen: x5155:5/1/2025  
X:\AIR-760\762\25-DOC-08282\Airbus Helicopters Global AMOC Approval Letter 6.10.2025.pdf  
WTS: 25-DOC-08282