

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC)
Code 2800, Aircraft Fuel System.

(e) Reason

This AD was prompted by mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI) originated by an aviation authority of another country to identify and correct an unsafe condition on an aviation product. The MCAI describes the unsafe condition as corrosion of fuel system components located in the fuel gallery due to inadequate corrosion protection. The FAA is issuing this AD to prevent corrosion-related damage to fuel system components, which could lead to fuel leaks, electrical arcing, loss of fuel boost pump function, and erroneous fuel quantity readings. This unsafe condition, if not corrected, could result in fuel starvation with loss of engine power and increased risk of an in-flight fire with consequent loss of airplane control.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Required Actions for Airplanes Operating on Floats on the Effective Date of This AD

(1) Within 50 hours time-in-service (TIS) after the effective date of this AD or within 3 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, and thereafter at intervals not to exceed 125 hours TIS, do the following actions:

(i) Remove all fuel gallery covers and rinse the fuel gallery with water.

(ii) Inspect the fuel gallery for corrosion and, if there is any corrosion, take all necessary corrective actions before further flight by following Item D.15(2) of Special Inspection 3 in Temporary Revision No. 241, dated July 27, 2021, to the Viking DHC-6 Inspection Requirements Manual, PSM 1-6-7.

(2) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, install the modifications applicable to your airplane serial number by following the Accomplishment Instructions, sections A. through E. in Viking Air Limited, DHC-6 Twin Otter Service Bulletin V6/0044, Revision 'B', dated September 13, 2021 (Viking SB V6/0044, Revision 'B').

(h) Required Actions for Airplanes Modified To Operate on Floats After the Effective Date of This AD

Within 12 months after the airplane is modified to operate on floats, regardless of whether the landing gear is later modified back to non-float landing gear, install the modifications applicable to your airplane serial number by following the Accomplishment Instructions, sections A. through E. in Viking SB V6/0044, Revision 'B.'

(i) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, New York ACO Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your

principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the certification office, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (j)(1) of this AD.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(j) Related Information

(1) For more information about this AD, contact Joseph Catanzaro, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, New York ACO Branch, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228-7366; fax: (516) 794-5531; email: joseph.catanzaro@faa.gov.

(2) For service information identified in this AD, contact Viking Air Limited Technical Support, 1959 de Havilland Way, Sidney, British Columbia, Canada, V8L 5V5; phone: (North America) (800) 663-8444; fax: (250) 656-0673; email: technical.support@vikingair.com; website: <https://www.vikingair.com/support/service-bulletins>. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 901 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110.

Issued on January 13, 2022.

Lance T. Gant,

Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2022-00970 Filed 1-20-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA-2022-0008; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00882-R]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.a. Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Leonardo S.p.a. Model AW109SP helicopters. This proposed AD was prompted by reports of corrosion inside the hoist support assembly (boom assembly) (affected part) that affects both the huck bolt heads (blind bolt fasteners) and the support surface. This proposed AD would require repetitive inspections of the external and internal surfaces of each affected part for cracking and corrosion and, depending

on the findings, accomplishment of corrective actions, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference (IBR). This proposed AD would also allow the installation of an affected part, provided certain instructions are followed. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by March 7, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

• **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

• **Fax:** (202) 493-2251.

• **Mail:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

• **Hand Delivery:** Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For EASA material that is proposed for IBR in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu; internet www.easa.europa.eu. You may find the EASA material on the EASA website at <https://ad.easa.europa.eu>. You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N-321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222-5110. This EASA material is also available at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2022-0008.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2022-0008; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, the EASA AD, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 228-7330; email andrea.jimenez@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Comments Invited**

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include “Docket No. FAA–2022–0008; Project Identifier MCAI–2021–00882–R” at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other information as described in 14 CFR 11.35, the FAA will post all comments received, without change, to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information you provide. The agency will also post a report summarizing each substantive verbal contact received about this NPRM.

Confidential Business Information

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to this NPRM contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to this NPRM, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission containing CBI as “PROPIN.” The FAA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the FOIA, and they will not be placed in the public docket of this NPRM. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 228–7330; email andrea.jimenez@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives that is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2021–0179, dated July 27, 2021 (EASA AD 2021–

0179) to correct an unsafe condition for Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters, formerly Finmeccanica S.p.A., AgustaWestland S.p.A., and Agusta S.p.A., Model AW109SP helicopters, all serial numbers.

This proposed AD was prompted by reports of corrosion inside the hoist support assembly affecting both the huck bolt heads and the support surface. Investigation of the root cause for the corrosion is ongoing. The FAA is proposing this AD to address corrosion on the hoist support assembly. This condition, if not addressed, could affect the structural integrity of the hoist support assembly, leading to in-flight detachment of the hoist support and consequent damage to the helicopter, and injury to hoisted persons. See EASA AD 2021–0179 for additional background information.

Related Service Information Under 1 CFR Part 51

EASA AD 2021–0179 requires repetitive inspections of the external and internal surfaces of each affected part for cracking and corrosion and, depending on the findings, accomplishment of corrective actions. If there is no evidence of corrosion on the interior surface of the boom torque tube or on the huck bolt heads, the corrective actions include spraying the interior surface with corrosion preventative compound around the huck bolt heads from the forward and aft ends of the boom torque tube, and installing new tube plugs on both ends of the boom torque tube. If there is superficial corrosion on the interior surface of the boom torque tube or on the huck bolt heads, the corrective actions include cleaning the corrosion, spraying the interior surface with corrosion preventative compound, and installing new tube plugs on both ends of the boom torque tube. If corrosion is found that is not superficial corrosion, the corrective action is repair or replacement of the boom torque tube.

If cracking is observed on the external surface of the hoist support assembly the corrective action is replacement of the hoist support assembly. If only corrosion is found on the external surface of the hoist support assembly the corrective actions include cleaning the hoist support assembly.

EASA AD 2021–0179 also allows installing an affected part, provided certain instructions are followed.

This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

FAA’s Determination

These helicopters have been approved by EASA and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with the European Union, EASA has notified the FAA about the unsafe condition described in its AD. The FAA is proposing this AD after evaluating all known relevant information and determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other helicopters of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require accomplishing the actions specified in EASA AD 2021–0179, described previously, as incorporated by reference, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD.

Explanation of Required Compliance Information

In the FAA’s ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency of the AD process, the FAA developed a process to use some civil aviation authority (CAA) ADs as the primary source of information for compliance with requirements for corresponding FAA ADs. The FAA has been coordinating this process with manufacturers and CAAs. As a result, the FAA proposes to incorporate EASA AD 2021–0179 by reference in the FAA final rule. This proposed AD would, therefore, require compliance with EASA AD 2021–0179 in its entirety through that incorporation, except for any differences identified as exceptions in the regulatory text of this proposed AD. Using common terms that are the same as the heading of a particular section in EASA AD 2021–0179 does not mean that operators need comply only with that section. For example, where the AD requirement refers to “all required actions and compliance times,” compliance with this AD requirement is not limited to the section titled “Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s)” in EASA AD 2021–0179. Service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 for compliance will be available at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2022–0008 after the FAA final rule is published.

Interim Action

The FAA considers this proposed AD would be an interim action. If final action is later identified, the FAA might consider further rulemaking.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 40

helicopters of U.S. Registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Inspecting	0.50 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$42.50 per inspection cycle.	\$0	\$42.50 per inspection cycle.	\$1,700 per inspection cycle.
Installing new boom torque tube plugs.	0.25 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$21.25.	5,044	\$5,065.25	\$202,610.

The FAA estimates the following costs to do any necessary replacements that would be required based on the

results of the proposed inspection. The agency has no way of determining the

number of aircraft that might need these replacements:

ON-CONDITION COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product
Cleaning boom torque tube interior or exterior	0.25 work-hour × \$85 per hour = \$21.25	\$0	\$21.25
Replacing boom torque tube	6 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$510	39,500	40,010
Replacing hoist support assembly	6.50 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$552.50	44,864	45,416.50

The FAA has received no definitive data on which to base the cost estimates for the repairs specified in this proposed AD.

The FAA has included all known costs in its cost estimate. According to the manufacturer, however, some of the costs of this proposed AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected operators.

Authority for This Rulemaking

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA's authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency's authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

Regulatory Findings

The FAA determined that this proposed AD would not have federalism implications under Executive Order

13132. This proposed AD would not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify this proposed regulation:

- (1) Is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Would not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Would not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

The Proposed Amendment

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA proposes to amend 14 CFR part 39 as follows:

PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

- 1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

§ 39.13 [Amended]

- 2. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

Leonardo S.p.a.: Docket No. FAA-2022-0008; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00882-R.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by March 7, 2022.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

This AD applies to all Leonardo S.p.a. Model AW109SP helicopters, certificated in any category.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft Service Component (JASC) Code: 2560, Emergency Equipment.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by reports of corrosion inside the hoist support assembly (boom assembly) (affected part) that affects both the huck bolt heads (blind bolt fasteners) and the support surface. The FAA is issuing this AD to address corrosion on the hoist support assembly. This condition, if not addressed, could affect the structural integrity of the hoist support assembly, leading to in-flight detachment of the hoist support and consequent damage to the helicopter, and injury to hoisted persons.

(f) Compliance

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

(g) Requirements

Except as specified in paragraph (h) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union Aviation

Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2021–0179, dated July 27, 2021 (EASA AD 2021–0179).

(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2021–0179

(1) Where EASA AD 2021–0179 requires compliance in terms of flight hours, this AD requires using hours time-in-service.

(2) Where EASA AD 2021–0179 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(3) Where the service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies discarding parts, this AD requires removing those parts from service.

(4) Where the service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies returning a part to the manufacturer, this AD requires removing that part from service.

(5) Where the service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies submitting photographs to the manufacturer, this AD does not require that action.

(6) Where the service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies attaching a label to the hoist support assembly, this AD does not require that action.

(7) Where paragraph (2) of EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies contacting Leonardo S.p.a. for corrective action instructions, this AD requires replacing or repairing before further flight using a method approved by the Manager, General Aviation and Rotorcraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Leonardo S.p.a.'s EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(8) This AD does not mandate compliance with the "Remarks" section of EASA AD 2021–0179.

(i) No Reporting Requirement

Although the service information referenced in EASA AD 2021–0179 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

(j) Special Flight Permit

Special flight permits may be permitted provided that there are no passengers on board.

(k) Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)

(1) The Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or local Flight Standards District Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (l)(2) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov.

(2) Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the local flight standards district office/certificate holding district office.

(l) Related Information

(1) For EASA AD 2021–0179, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu; internet www.easa.europa.eu. You may view this material at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110. This material may be found in the AD docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2022–0008.

(2) For more information about this AD, contact Andrea Jimenez, Aerospace Engineer, COS Program Management Section, Operational Safety Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 1600 Stewart Ave., Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone (516) 228–7330; email andrea.jimenez@faa.gov.

Issued on January 14, 2022.

Lance T. Gant,

Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2022–01168 Filed 1–20–22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2022–0006; Project Identifier AD–2021–01298–R]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Bell Textron Inc. Helicopters

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: The FAA proposes to adopt a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain Bell Textron Inc. Model 205A, 205A–1, 205B, 210, 212, 412, 412CF, and 412EP helicopters with a certain part-numbered tailboom left hand fin spar cap (spar cap) installed. This proposed AD was prompted by reports of cracked spar caps. This proposed AD would require inspecting each spar cap and depending on the inspection results, removing the spar cap from service. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this proposed AD by March 7, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, using the procedures found in 14 CFR 11.43 and 11.45, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** Go to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- **Fax:** (202) 493–2251.

- **Mail:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** Deliver to Mail address above between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

For service information identified in this NPRM, contact Bell Textron, Inc., P.O. Box 482, Fort Worth, TX 76101; telephone 1–450–437–2862 or 1–800–363–8023; fax 1–450–433–0272; email productsupport@bellflight.com; or at <https://www.bellflight.com/support/contact-support>. You may view this service information at the FAA, Office of the Regional Counsel, Southwest Region, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Room 6N–321, Fort Worth, TX 76177. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call (817) 222–5110.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2022–0006 or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this NPRM, any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ameet Shrotriya, Aviation Safety Engineer, DSCO Branch, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, FAA, 10101 Hillwood Pkwy., Fort Worth, TX 76177–1524; phone: (817) 222–5525; email: Ameet.Shrotriya@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

The FAA invites you to send any written relevant data, views, or arguments about this proposal. Send your comments to an address listed under **ADDRESSES**. Include "Docket No. FAA–2022–0006; Project Identifier AD–2021–01298–R" at the beginning of your comments. The most helpful comments reference a specific portion of the proposal, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include supporting data. The FAA will consider all comments received by the closing date and may amend this proposal because of those comments.

Except for Confidential Business Information (CBI) as described in the following paragraph, and other