



# AIRWORTHINESS BULLETIN

AWB 51-012 Issue 1 – 16 September 2016

EC130 Horizontal Stabiliser Cracking

## 1. Effectivity

All EC130 B4 helicopters.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this AWB is to advise all operators that cracks may exist in the horizontal stabiliser attachment bracket. Airbus helicopters are aware of these events and have developed a repair procedure for the attachment bracket (SB EC130-55-001).

## 3. Background

Service defect reports have been submitted to CASA highlighting three horizontal attachment brackets with cracking see the figure below. Cracking appears to be isolated to the right lower bracket.



Figure 1

CASA strongly recommends a visual inspection of all the horizontal attachment brackets at the next major scheduled servicing inspection. This will involve the removal of the horizontal stabilizer to gain appropriate access. Airbus Helicopters have provided Service Bulletin EC130-55-001 as a repair scheme and also as an upgrade so as to limit such occurrences from happening. No mandatory compliance time is stated within the service bulletin.



The Service Bulletin contains the following information;

*“Cracks in the horizontal stabilizer fittings have been reported during maintenance operations.*

*To limit such occurrences, Airbus Helicopters has designed modifications 350A087412.00 and 073896.*

*The purpose of this Service Bulletin is to improve the horizontal stabilizer attachment on the tail boom by replacing the fittings (MOD 350A087412.00) and the threaded pins (MOD 073896).*

*Modification 350A087412.00 (Horizontal stabilizer brackets change) consists in:*

- replacing the horizontal stabilizer fittings with reinforced fittings,*
- increasing the bore diameters of the stabilizer attachment bushes and bearings from 8H7 to 8.2H10,*
- replacing the horizontal stabilizer attachment bolts on the fittings”.*

#### **4. Reporting**

Report all defects via the casa SDR system.

#### **5. Enquiries**

Enquiries with regard to the content of this Airworthiness Bulletin should be made via the direct link email address:

[AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au](mailto:AirworthinessBulletin@casa.gov.au)

or in writing, to:

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