

accomplish those instructions accordingly.” this AD requires replacing that text with “if any crack or damage is detected, the crack or damage must be repaired before further flight using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Airbus SAS’s EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.”

(3) This AD does not adopt the “Remarks” section of EASA AD 2024–0129.

(i) Additional AD Provisions

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs)*: 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 responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the manager of the International Validation Branch, mail it to the address identified in paragraph (j) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer*: For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Airbus SAS’s EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(3) *Required for Compliance (RC)*: Except as required by paragraphs (h)(2) and (i)(2) of this AD, if any material referenced in EASA AD 2024–0129 contains paragraphs that are labeled as RC, the instructions in RC paragraphs, including subparagraphs under an RC paragraph, must be done to comply with this AD; any paragraphs, including subparagraphs under those paragraphs, that are not identified as RC are recommended. The instructions in paragraphs, including subparagraphs under those paragraphs, not identified as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator’s maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the instructions identified as RC can be done and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition. Any substitutions or changes to instructions identified as RC require approval of an AMOC.

(j) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact Dat Le, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; telephone 516–228–7300; email dat.v.le@faa.gov.

(k) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2024–0129, dated July 5, 2024.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA AD 2024–0129 identified in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADS@easa.europa.eu; website easa.europa.eu. You may find this EASA AD on the EASA website at ad.easa.europa.eu.

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206–231–3195.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on September 23, 2024.

Peter A. White,

Deputy Director, Integrated Certificate Management Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024–22180 Filed 9–27–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA–2024–2322; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00065–Q]

RIN 2120–AA64

Airworthiness Directives; THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT AG Digital Air Data Computers

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 THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT AG (THOMMEN) AC32 Digital Air Data Computers. This proposed AD results from occurrences of AC32 Digital Air Data Computers (ADCs) that stop functioning below certain temperatures. This proposed AD would require replacing an affected AC32 Digital ADC with a serviceable part. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this NPRM by November 14, 2024.

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 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.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA–2024–2322; 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 mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The street address for Docket Operations is listed above.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT material identified in this proposed AD, contact THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT AG, Hofackerstrasse 48, 4132 Muttenz, Switzerland; phone: +41 (0) 61 965 22 22; email: sales@thommen.aero; website: thommen.aero.

- You may view this material 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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

William Reisenauer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228–7301; email: 9-AVS-AIR-BACO-COS@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–2024–2322; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00065–Q” 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 *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 William Reisenauer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590. Any commentary that the FAA receives which is not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this rulemaking.

Background

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD

2024–0024, dated January 24, 2024 (also referred to as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition on certain THOMMEN AC32 Digital ADCs. The MCAI states that there have been occurrences of certain AC32 Digital ADCs stopping functioning at temperatures below –20 degrees Celsius. The error is detectable and does not transmit erroneous data. The problem is caused by the power module and the affected units have been identified. This condition, if not addressed, could result in insufficient navigational data provided to the flight crew, resulting in reduced control of the aircraft. The MCAI requires removing from service each affected part and specifies that only serviceable parts as defined in the MCAI may be installed.

You may examine the MCAI in the AD docket at *regulations.gov* under Docket No. FAA–2024–2322.

Material Incorporated by Reference Under 1 CFR Part 51

The FAA reviewed THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT Service Bulletin SB AC32/07, Revision 1.0, dated August 31, 2023 (THOMMEN SB AC32/07, Revision 1.0). This material specifies procedures for determining if an aircraft is equipped with an affected AC32 Digital ADC listed in Appendix A, determining if the actions specified in THOMMEN SB AC32/07, Revision 1.0, were already accomplished, and replacing any affected THOMMEN AC32 Digital ADC.

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 products have been approved by the aviation authority of another country and are approved for operation in the United States. Pursuant to the FAA’s bilateral agreement with this State of Design Authority, it has notified the FAA of the unsafe condition described in the MCAI referenced above. The FAA is issuing this NPRM after determining that the unsafe condition described previously is likely to exist or develop on other products of the same type design.

Proposed AD Requirements in This NPRM

This proposed AD would require replacing affected AC32 Digital ADCs with serviceable parts. This proposed AD would also prohibit the installation of an affected AC32 Digital ADC on any aircraft.

Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD, if adopted as proposed, would affect 401 AC32 Digital ADCs that are installed on aircraft worldwide. The FAA has no way of determining how many of these ADC are installed on aircraft of U.S. registry.

The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this proposed AD. These costs assume all 401 AC32 Digital ADCs are installed on aircraft of U.S. registry. The FAA expects a portion of the affected population to exist outside of the U.S. and the estimated costs to be lower.

ESTIMATED COSTS

Action	Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Replace affected AC32 Digital ADC	12 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$1,020	\$4,477	\$5,497	\$2,204,297

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:

Thommen Aircraft Equipment AG: Docket No. FAA–2024–2322; Project Identifier MCAI–2024–00065–Q.

(a) Comments Due Date

The FAA must receive comments on this airworthiness directive (AD) by November 14, 2024.

(b) Affected ADs

None.

(c) Applicability

(1) This AD applies to THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT AG (THOMMEN) AC32 Digital Air Data Computers (ADCs) having an affected part as defined in paragraph (f)(1) of this AD.

(2) This appliance is installed on, but not limited to, the following aircraft models specified in Table 1 to paragraph (c)(2) of this AD, certificated in any category.

TABLE 1 TO PARAGRAPH (C)(2)—APPLICABLE AIRCRAFT MODELS

Type certificate holder	Aircraft model
Airbus Defense and Space S.A. (type certificate previously held by Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A.)	CN–235, CN–235–100, CN–235–200, and CN–235–300.
Airbus Helicopters	AS332C, AS332C1, AS332L, AS332L1, AS3323L2.
Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH (AHD)	EC635T2+.
Bell Textron Inc	212, 412, and 412EP.
Bombardier Inc	CL–600–1A11 (600).
Columbia Helicopters Inc	234.
General Atomics Aerotek Systems GmbH (type certificate formerly held by DORNIER LUFTFAHRT Inc.)	228–100, 228–101, 228–200, 228–201, 228–202, and 228–212.
Gulfstream Aerospace LP	Westwind Astra 1124 (serial numbers 004–0410).
International Air Response	C–130A.
Leonardo S.p.a	A109, A10A, A109A II, A109C, A109K2, A109S, 1099SP, and AW139.
Textron Aviation Inc	200, 300, 500, 501, 550, and 551.
Viking Air Limited	CL–215–6B11 (CL–215T Variant).

(3) This appliance is approved for installation and could be installed on various aircraft modified by Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) No. SR09595RC or ST01523WI.

(d) Subject

Joint Aircraft System Component (JASC) Code 3417, Air Data Computer.

(e) Unsafe Condition

This AD was prompted by occurrences of AC32 Digital ADCs stopping functioning due to the power module failing at temperatures below –20 degrees Celsius. The unsafe condition, if not addressed, could result in insufficient navigational data provided to the flight crew, resulting in reduced control of the aircraft.

(f) Definitions

For the purpose of this AD the definitions in paragraphs (f)(1) through (4) of this AD apply:

(1) Affected part: THOMMEN AC32 Digital ADCs, part numbers (P/N) AC32.10.21.10.XX, AC32.10.21.11.XX, AC32.11.21.10.XX, and AC32.11.21.11.XX (where XX represents any alpha/numerical sequence), and having a serial number (S/N) listed in Appendix A of THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT Service Bulletin SB AC32/07, Revision 1.0, dated August 31, 2023 (THOMMEN SB AC32/07 Revision 1.0).

(2) Serviceable part: Any AC32.(X) Digital ADC that is not an affected part; or an affected part where the power module has

been replaced by THOMMEN, in accordance with the instructions of THOMMEN SB AC32/07 Revision 1.0.

(3) Group 1 aircraft: Have an affected part installed.

(4) Group 2 aircraft: Do not have an affected part installed but are eligible for AC32.(X) Digital ADC installation.

(g) Compliance

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

(h) Required Actions

For Group 1 aircraft: Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, remove each affected part from service and replace it with a serviceable part in accordance with paragraph 3.A. of the Accomplishment Instructions in THOMMEN SB AC32/07 Revision 1.0, except where this material specifies to send the removed affected part to the manufacturer, this AD does not require that action.

(i) Parts Installation Prohibition

For Group 1 and 2 aircraft: As of the effective date of this AD, do not install an affected part on any aircraft.

(j) Special Flight Permits

A one-time special flight permit may be issued in accordance with 14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199 in order to fly to a maintenance base to perform the required action in this AD,

provided a flight profile above –15 degrees Celsius (5 degrees Fahrenheit) is maintained.

(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 International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (l) of this AD and email to: AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(l) Additional Information

For more information about this AD, contact William Reisenauer, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (516) 228–7301; email: 9-AVS-AIR-BACO-COS@faa.gov.

(m) Material Incorporated by Reference

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference (IBR) of the material listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this material as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless the AD specifies otherwise.

(i) THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT Service Bulletin SB AC32/07, Revision 1.0, dated August 31, 2023.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT material in this AD, contact THOMMEN AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT AG, Hofackerstrasse 48, 4132 Muttenz, Switzerland; phone: +41 (0) 61 965 22 22; email: sales@thommen.aero; website: thommen.aero.

(4) You may view this material 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.

(5) You may view this material at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, visit www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations or email fr.inspection@nara.gov.

Issued on September 24, 2024.

Steven W. Thompson,

Acting Deputy Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2024-22251 Filed 9-27-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2024-2147; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01515-R]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus 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 Airbus Helicopters Model EC 155B, EC155B1, SA-365N, SA-365N1, AS-365N2, and AS 365 N3 helicopters. This proposed AD was prompted by an engine compartment fire where the upper stiffener of the central firewall in the engine compartment was found damaged. This proposed AD would require replacing the aluminum central firewall stiffener with a titanium central firewall stiffener and prohibit installing an aluminum central firewall stiffener. These actions are specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is proposed for incorporation by reference. The FAA is proposing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: The FAA must receive comments on this NPRM by November 14, 2024.

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 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.

AD Docket: You may examine the AD docket at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2024-2147; 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.

Material Incorporated by Reference:

- For EASA material identified in this proposed AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; phone: +49 221 8999 000; email: ADs@easa.europa.eu; website: easa.europa.eu. You may find this material on the EASA website at 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. The EASA material is also available at regulations.gov under Docket No. FAA-2024-2147.

Other Related Material: For Airbus Helicopters material identified in this proposed AD, contact Airbus Helicopters, 2701 North Forum Drive, Grand Prairie, TX 75052; phone (972) 641-0000 or (800) 232-0323; fax (972) 641-3775; or at airbus.com/en/products-services/helicopters/hcare-services/airbusworld.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Hye Yoon Jang, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (206) 231-3758; email: Hye.Yoon.Jang@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-2024-2147; Project Identifier

MCAI-2022-01515-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 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 Hye Yoon Jang, Aviation Safety Engineer, FAA, 1600 Stewart Avenue, Suite 410, Westbury, NY 11590; phone: (206) 231-3758; email: Hye.Yoon.Jang@faa.gov. Any commentary that the FAA receives which 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 European Union Aviation Safety Agency AD 2022-0231, dated November 28, 2022 (EASA AD 2022-0231), to correct an unsafe condition on Airbus Helicopters Model EC 155B, EC155B1, SA-365N, SA-365N1, AS-365N2, and AS 365 N3 helicopters.

This proposed AD was prompted by an engine fire where the upper stiffener of the central firewall, made of aluminum, in the engine compartment was found damaged. The FAA is proposing this AD to address failure of