



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0026

Issued: 04 February 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

HEINRICH MERTENS

Type/Model designation(s):

10-30/24, 12-61/24 R and 12-82/23
Emergency Parachutes

Effective Date: 18 February 2016

ETSOA Number(s): Germany LBA.40.010/01, LBA.40.010/55 and LBA.40.010/96

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Emergency Parachute Rubber Bands – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Heinrich Mertens

Applicability:

Type 10-30/24, 12-61/24 and 12-82/23 Emergency Parachutes, all variants, serial number (s/n) 13-227154 to s/n 14-227292 inclusive.

Reason:

Based on reported occurrences, it has been determined that a batch of rubber bands, used in the production of certain emergency parachutes, has a higher than normal probability to become gummy and sticky, causing the parachute lines to stick to the diaper or bag.

This condition, if not corrected, could cause a malfunction of the emergency parachute. Appendix 1 of this AD contains a picture showing an affected emergency parachute after opening for a scheduled rigging.



For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected rubber bands with serviceable rubber bands.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, replace all rubber bands in the emergency parachute with new rubber bands provided by Heinrich Mertens, or new rubber bands of the same size and meeting the specification of MIL-R-1832. Accomplish the replacement in accordance with the instructions of Heinrich Mertens Technische Mitteilung (TM) 002-03-16.
- (2) The replacement of the rubber bands can be accomplished by any person qualified to accomplish the rigging of the parachute. The accomplishment of the replacement has to be recorded by that qualified person on the parachute packing record, which must include a statement on the source and batch identification of the replacement rubber bands.

Note: Since emergency parachutes are not “required” equipment as defined in Commission Regulation (EU) No 965/2012 (Air Operations) and are not considered “installed equipment” on aircraft, emergency parachutes are not subject to Commission Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 (Part M). However, owners and users of emergency parachutes are required to comply with an AD by Commission Regulation (EU) 965/2012, Paragraphs ORO.GEN.155 (b) and NCO.GEN.145 (b).

Ref. Publications:

Heinrich Mertens TM 002-03-16, dated 02 February 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: Heinrich Mertens, Am Roten Berge 8, 58762 Altena, Germany
Telephone: +49 2392 8053201, Fax: +49 2392 8053203
E-mail: Heinrich.Mertens@fallschirm.de, Website <http://www.fallschirm.de>.



Appendix 1

