

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

released by DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'AVIATION CIVILE

Inspection and/or modifications described below are mandatory. No person may operate a product to which this Airworthiness Directive applies except in accordance with the requirements of this Airworthiness Directive.

Translation of 'Consigne de Navigabilité' ref. : 1998-540-089(B) R2
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A330 Aircraft

PRATT & WHITNEY PW4164, PW4168 and PW4168A engines -
Replacement of cascade aft supports (ATA 78)

APPLICABILITY :

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A330 aircraft models -223, -321 -322 and -323 equipped with PRATT & WHITNEY PW4164, PW4168 and 4168A engines which have not received AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modification 47565 nor AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-78-3012.

REASONS :

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is prompted by recent events where cascade aft supports that had more than 3,400 flight cycles fractured during operation, resulted in aircraft and thrust reverser damage.

Initial analysis of the fractured parts revealed fatigue fractures originating from a cascade aft support attachment bolt hole.

This situation, if not corrected, could ultimately result in partial or total loss of thrust reverser of one engine and possible loss of braking on one side.

The Revision 1 of this AD takes into account the newly certified A330-323 model.

The Revision 2 of this AD introduces in the "Applicability " paragraph the terminating action.

COMPLIANCE :

In order to prevent additional fatigue fracture events originating from a cascade aft support attachment bolt hole, the following measures are rendered mandatory on the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive :

- 1) Before accumulation of 2,000 flight cycles since new for thrust reversers installed on aircraft or within 500 flight hours from the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive, whichever occurs later,

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- replace the cascade aft supports P/N 76M260-029 by a zero time/cycle cascade aft supports P/N 76M260S039 in accordance with the instructions given in PRATT & WHITNEY Alert Service Bulletin PW4G-100-A78-67.
- 2) On aircraft fitted with thrust reversers that have accumulated 2,000 or more flight cycles and that have not yet been modified in accordance with PRATT & WHITNEY Alert Service Bulletin PW4G-100-A78-67 use the thrust reversers at landing only when runway length or runway conditions require them as recommendations of AIRBUS INDUSTRIE OIT/FOT 999.0077/98 dated August 28, 1998 up to incorporation of PRATT & WHITNEY Alert Service Bulletin PW4G-100-A78-67.
 - 3) Repeat the replacement of the cascade aft supports P/N 76M260S039 by identical zero time/cycle cascade aft supports at interval not exceeding 2,000 flight cycles.

This Revision 2 replaces the Airworthiness Directive 1998-540-089(B) R1 dated June 02, 1999.

REF. : PRATT & WHITNEY Alert Service Bulletin PW4G-100-A78-67 dated September 04, 1998
AIRBUS INDUSTRIE OIT/FOT 999.0077/98 dated August 28, 1998.
AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-78-3012
(or any further approved revision).

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original AD : JANUARY 09, 1999
Revision 1 : JUNE 12, 1999
Revision 2 : MARCH 18, 2000