

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. : 1999-176-095(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A330 Aircraft

Reinforcement of frame 40 (ATA 53)

APPLICABILITY :

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A330 aircraft models -202, -223, -301, -321, -322, -341 and -342 which have not received either AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modification 45899 nor AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3093.

REASONS :

To prevent crack initiation and propagation in several parts of the fuselage at frame 40 (at the front fitting, the connecting bracket, the circumferential strap, stringer 40 and on the fuselage skin), as evidenced during fatigue tests and which could lead to a reduced structural integrity.

COMPLIANCE :

The following measures are rendered mandatory on the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive, unless already previously accomplished :

For A330-301, -321, -322, -341 and -342 aircraft :

Before accumulation of 8000 flights or 25700 flight hours since first flight, whichever occurs first, reinforce the frame 40 in accordance with the instructions given in the AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3093.

For A330-202 and -223 aircraft :

Before accumulation of 10000 flights or 32200 flight hours since first flight, whichever occurs first, reinforce the frame 40 in accordance with the instructions given in the AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3093.

Note :

To minimize the risk of extensive damage that could lead to expensive repairs and extended grounding of the aircraft, it is recommended by the manufacturer to accomplish AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3093 :

- Before accumulation of 4200 flights or 13500 flight hours, whichever occurs first for A330-301, -321, -322, -341 and -342.
- Before accumulation of 4450 flights or 14300 flight hours, whichever occurs first for A330-202 and -223.

REF. : AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3093
(or any other later approved revision)

EFFECTIVE DATE : MAY 15, 1999