

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. : 2001-091(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A300-600 aircraft

Fuselage - Inspection of lower flanges of gantries between FR47 and FR54 (ATA 53)

APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A300-600 aircraft, all certified models and all serial numbers, except for the aircraft on which AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modification No. 12169 has been embodied in production.

REASONS:

Cracks were found on the lower flanges of the gantries, during validation of an inspection method providing easier access for SSI 53-15-76. As a consequence, a non-repetitive inspection was rendered mandatory by Airworthiness Directive (AD) 97-372-236(B), in accordance with the instructions of AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A.O.T. No. 53-11 dated October 13, 1997.

The inspection results and further investigations made it possible to define a new programme of repetitive inspections for the lower flanges of gantries 3, 4 and 5, LH and RH, between FR47 and FR54.

ACTIONS:

1. At the threshold and according to the instructions defined in AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin (SB) A300-53-6128, perform an inspection of the lower flanges of the gantries.

Aircraft nearing or exceeding the inspection threshold value defined shall be inspected within 200 flights following the effective date of this AD at the latest.

2. Depending on the corrective actions which may have been taken previously, repeat the inspection at the intervals and according to the instructions defined in SB A300-53-6128.

REF.: AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A300-53-6128
(any later approved revision of this SB is acceptable).

This Airworthiness Directive supersedes the "Actions" rendered mandatory by Airworthiness Directive 97-372-236(B) concerning the A300-600 aircraft.

EFFECTIVE DATE : MARCH 31, 2001