

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. : 2002-043-065(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

ATR

ATR 72 aircraft

Thermal/acoustical insulation materials (ATA 25)

1. APPLICABILITY:

ATR 72 -102, -202, -212 and -212A aircraft models on which:

- at least one of modifications 3890 or 4204 has been embodied but
- none of ATR modifications 5117 or 5322 (Service Bulletin (SB) ATR 72-25-1074) has been embodied.

2. REASONS:

After some incidents initiated by electrical short circuit behind side wall, in which the flammability characteristics of thermal/acoustical insulation material made from metallized polyethyleneteraphthalate (MPET) may have been a contributing factor, the Certification Authority decided to improve flammability standards for thermal/acoustical insulation materials.

As consequence, new requirements have been created and the MPET (also called metallized MYLAR) shall be replaced on all aeroplanes.

Although some ATR aeroplanes are equipped with MPET and that no incident was never experienced, the actions mandated by the present Airworthiness Directive (AD) are intended to improve the fire safety standard of the insulation blankets installed on ATR aircraft.

This AD replaces AD 2001-635-061(B) which is cancelled.

3. ACTIONS:

In order to comply with the requirements the following measures are rendered mandatory on the effective date of this AD:

During the next "eight year calendar check" and at the latest before May 31, 2009, remove the MPET insulation blankets and replace them with the new one in accordance with the instructions given by SB ATR 72-25-1074.

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REF.: Service Bulletin ATR 72-25-1074
Any later approved revision of this SB is acceptable.

EFFECTIVE DATE :

Upon receipt from JANUARY 23, 2002

SUPERSEDED