

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. : 2002-586(B) R1
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS

A319, A320 and A321 aircraft

Navigation - Pitot probes (ATA 34)

1. APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS A319, A320 and A321 aircraft, all certified models, all serial numbers fitted with THALES AVIONICS Pitot probes P/N C16195AA with a serial number (S/N) lower than 4760.

Note: THALES AVIONICS was previously known as "SEXTANT" or "SEXTANT AVIONIQUE".

2. REASONS:

An operator reported airspeed discrepancy events on A320 aircraft further to Pitot probe obstruction.

The investigations performed by the supplier THALES AVIONICS revealed that the defect of the Pitot probes was due to a manufacturing defect at the drain holes.

This manufacturing defect contributes to the accumulation of external pollution which, combined with severe weather conditions, might obstruct the air intake of the Pitot probes, leading to bad total pressure Pt detection and therefore erroneous CAS/MACH parameters delivered by the ADR.

The purpose of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) is to require the application of the cleaning procedure recommended by the supplier to all Pitot probes of the THALES AVIONICS type P/N C16195AA with a S/N lower than 4760.

Revision 1 of this AD is issued in order to introduce the reference of the AIRBUS Service Bulletin (SB) A320-34-1263 that covers the THALES AVIONICS SB C16195A-34-002.

3. COMPLIANCE:

The following measures are rendered mandatory from the effective date of this AD at original issue.

Unless already accomplished, within 700 flight hours following the effective date of the original AD, inspect and repair the Pitot probes in accordance with the instructions of AIRBUS SB A320-34-1263.

The Pitot probes that have been repaired in accordance with the instructions of THALES AVIONICS SB C16195A-34-002 are compliant with this AD at Revision 1.

REF.: AIRBUS Service Bulletin A320-34-1263
THALES AVIONICS Service Bulletin C16195A-34-002
(Any further approved revision of these SB 's is acceptable).

This Revision 1 replaces original AD 2002-586(B) dated November 27, 2002.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original issue : DECEMBER 07, 2002
Revision 1 : APRIL 12, 2003

CANCELLED