

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. : 2003-085(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS

A300-600 aircraft

Center tank - Fuel pump canisters and pumps damage (ATA 28)

1. APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS A300B4-600 and A300C4-600 aircraft, all serial numbers, except MSNs 546, 553, 618 and 623 which have already been inspected per AIRBUS Alert SB A300-28A6061.

2. REASONS:

Since 1998, center tank fuel pumps and pump canisters were found damaged on some A300-600R aircraft (trim tank aircraft post mod 04801). Final fix for A300-600R aircraft consists in introducing a reinforced center tank pump canister through AIRBUS Service Bulletin A300-28-6069 Rev 01 issued in May 2002, mandated per AD 2002-132(B).

However, it was later on discovered and confirmed that canisters were also found broken on AIRBUS A300-600 aircraft. This type of damage, when not detected could result in total separation of the center tank pump electrical motor housing and subsequent loss of flame-trap capability of the fuel system in the area.

The goal of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) is to ensure the safety of the fleet by mandating a one time detailed visual inspection of the center tank fuel pumps and canisters followed by repetitive NDT inspections of the center tank pump canisters.

3. COMPLIANCE:

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

3.1. Integrity check and visual inspection program:

Within 15 days after February 20, 2003 [the effective date of AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075] check the integrity of the fuel pump canisters and perform a detailed visual inspection of the center tank fuel pumps in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 4.2 of AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075.

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3.2. Repetitive NDT inspection program:

3.2.1. At the next opportunity and at the latest, before accumulation of 600 flight hours following February 20, 2003, perform an Eddy Current inspection of the fuel pump canisters in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 4.3 of AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075. In case of damage, replace the damaged component before next flight in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 4.3 of AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075.

3.2.2. Repeat the inspection as prescribed in paragraph 3.2.1. of this AD every 1,500 flight cycles. If a fuel pump canister is replaced with a new canister, then perform the next inspection within 7,000 flight cycles following this replacement. Thereafter repeat this inspection at interval not exceeding 1,500 flight cycles.

Note: Results of these inspections, whatever their nature, must be reported to AIRBUS as prescribed in paragraph 7 of AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075.

REF.: AIRBUS Alert SB A300-28A6061
AIRBUS Service Bulletin A300-28-6069 Rev. 01
AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-600-28A6075 dated February 20, 2003
Any later revision of these documents is acceptable.

This AD has been the subject of a telegraphic diffusion on February 21, 2003.

EFFECTIVE DATE :

Upon receipt of the "Telegraphic" AD issued on FEBRUARY 21, 2003