



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2008 – 86
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Subject: **Uncertified Aircraft Configuration**

Ref. Publication: OIT SE 999.0085/04/BB dated 21 July 2004;
 OIT SE 999.0079/08/LB dated 02 October 2008;
 SIL 27-150 Revision 01 dated 31 October 2008.

Description: 1. In September 2008, during the flare phase, the elevators of an A330 aircraft remained at neutral position for several seconds whereas the pilots had ordered a pitch up movement through the side sticks. This resulted in a severe hard landing and subsequent main landing gear replacement.

While troubleshooting the event, the following Flight Control Primary Computer (FCPC) configuration was found:

- Part Number (P/N) LA2K1A100DA0000 (P8/M17 standard) was fitted in FCPC1 and FCPC3 positions.
- P/N LA2K2B100D80000 (P7/M16 standard) was fitted in FCPC2 position.

Investigations and testing have demonstrated that, with this unauthorized FCPC configuration, FCPC2 sent erroneous orders to the elevator servo-controls, leading to force fighting between the actuators and unwanted elevators movement.

2. Similar event had occurred in 2004, during the power-up sequence of an A340, all ground spoilers partially extended whereas they have to remain fully retracted.

While troubleshooting the event, the following FCPC configuration was found:

- FCPC1 was of P/N LA2K1A100220000 (standard L15);
- FCPC2 was of P/N LA2K1A100240000 (standard L16A);
- FCPC3 was of P/N LA2K1A100230000 (standard L16).

According to AIRBUS documentation (Illustrated Parts Catalog, Airbus Service Bulletins and referenced Service Information Letter (SIL), both events are due to **not authorized mixed configuration**.

EASA recommendations:

- (a) To prevent an uncertified configuration that may result in unexpected operation of the aircraft systems, valid for all aircraft components, Owners and Operators should adhere to the interchangeability and mixability rules given in AIRBUS Type Certificate Holder documentation.
- (b) To remind to the EU Member States their States of Registry responsibilities to verify that any A330/A340 aircraft on their registers is in compliance with AIRBUS Type Certificate Holder documentation.

Applicability:

AIRBUS A330 aircraft, models -201, -202, -203, -223, -243, -301, -302, -303, -321, -322, -323, -341, -342 and -343, all serial numbers.

AIRBUS A340 aircraft, models -211, -212, -213, -311, -312, -313, -541, -542, -642 and -643, all serial numbers.

Contact:

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