



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0179

Issued: 18 September 2017

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

BAE SYSTEMS (OPERATIONS) LTD

Type/Model designation(s):

ATP aeroplanes

Effective Date: 02 October 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.192

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 57 – Wings – Front Spar / C-Channels – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

British Aerospace plc, British Aerospace (Commercial Aircraft) Ltd

Applicability:

ATP aeroplanes, all serial numbers.

Reason:

During replacement of the front spar boom angle on an ATP aeroplane, cracks were found on the lower skin rib/stringer attachment cleats at Rib 10.7 left-hand (LH) and Rib 10.79 right-hand (RH). Subsequent inspection also identified cracking of the C-channels, Part Number (P/N) 43D11333 at Rib 10.7 (LH) and Rib 10.79 (RH). C-channels P/N 47D11334 at Rib 25.38 (LH and RH) could also be affected by the cracking due to the similarity of design.

Metallurgical analysis determined the cause of cracking of the attachment cleats and C-channels to be fatigue loading.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to crack propagation, possibly resulting in reduced structural integrity of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd issued Service Bulletin (SB) ATP-57-018 providing instructions for inspection of the C-channels.



For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of the C-channels P/N 43D11333 and P/N 47D11334, and, depending on findings, replacement of C-channels.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Note: BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd SB ATP-57-018 is hereafter referred to as 'the SB' in this AD.

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within 6 000 flight cycles (FC) or 60 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 12 000 FC, inspect the C-channels P/N 43D11333 at Rib 10.7 (LH) and Rib 10.79 (RH) and P/N 47D11334 at Ribs 25.38 (LH and RH) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any C-channel is found cracked, before next flight, replace the affected C-channel(s) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Terminating Action:

- (3) None

Parts Installation:

- (4) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install a C-channel P/N 43D11333 or P/N 47D11334 on an aeroplane, provided that, following installation, it is inspected as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

Ref. Publications:

BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd SB ATP-57-018 original issue dated 25 November 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 17 August 2017 as PAD 17-113 for consultation until 14 September 2017. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd, Business Support Team - Technical Publications, Prestwick International Airport, Ayrshire, KA9 2RW, Scotland, United Kingdom; Telephone +44 1292 675207; Facsimile +44 1292 675704; E-mail: RApublications@baesystems.com.

