



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-068

Issued: 27 April 2020

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 of that Regulation.

In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below.

All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation date indicated.

Design Approval Holder's Name:

PILATUS AIRCRAFT Ltd

Type/Model designation(s):

PC-6 aeroplanes

Effective Date: [TBD - standard: 14 days after AD issue date]

TCDS Number(s): Switzerland No. F 56-10

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2018-0285 dated 20 December 2018.

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Airworthiness Limitations Section – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Pilatus Aircraft Ltd. and Fairchild Republic Company, formerly Fairchild Industries, Fairchild Heli Porter and Fairchild-Hiller Corporation

Applicability:

PC-6 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN).

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The ALS: Pilatus PC-6 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Document Number 01975, Chapter 04-00-00, or Document Number 01975 (IAC AR), Chapter 04-00-00, both issue 29, and Airworthiness Limitations Document (ALS) Document Number 02334, issue 9, as applicable to aeroplane model.

The AMP: The approved Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP), on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated aeroplane. For affected PC-6 aeroplanes operated under EU regulations, compliance with the approved AMP is required by Commission Regulation (EU) [1321/2014](#), Part M.A.301, paragraph 3.



New and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations: This includes all tasks that are new and all tasks for which a threshold or interval was reduced, which were introduced into the ALS (as defined in this AD) since the previous ALS Revision that is currently incorporated in the AMP.

Reason:

The airworthiness limitations and certification maintenance instructions for Pilatus PC-6 aeroplanes, which are approved by EASA, are currently defined and published in the ALS, as defined in this AD. These instructions have been identified as mandatory for continued airworthiness.

Failure to accomplish these instructions could result in an unsafe condition.

Previously, EASA issued AD 2018-0285 to require implementation of the maintenance tasks and airworthiness limitations as specified in Pilatus PC-6 AMM Document Number 01975, or Document Number 01975 (IAC AR), both at issue 27, and ALS Document Number 02334 at issue 8, as applicable.

Since that AD was issued, Pilatus issued the ALS, as defined in this AD, to introduce new data modules for inspection of fuselage wing fittings (Document Number 01975 Chapter 53-00-01 or Document Number 02334 APPENDIX K) and wing to fuselage fittings (Document Number 01975 Chapter 57-00-03 or Document Number 02334 APPENDIX L). The new data modules require non-destructive Eddy Current inspections.

For the reasons described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2018-0285, which is superseded, and requires accomplishment of the actions specified in the ALS. For certain aeroplanes, this AD also requires an additional one-time Eddy Current inspection of the fuselage wing fittings and wing to fuselage fittings.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

One-Time Eddy Current Inspection:

- (1) For aeroplanes on which the last inspection of the fuselage wing fittings and wing to fuselage fittings was performed using fluorescent dye-penetrant method, or if no record exists that an Eddy Current inspection of these areas was previously accomplished, during the next scheduled Eddy Current inspection (Check 2) of the left and right wing-strut fitting, accomplish an Eddy Current inspection of the fuselage wing fittings and wing to fuselage fittings in accordance with the instructions of the new data modules as defined in the ALS.

Maintenance Tasks and Replacement of Life Limited Parts:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, accomplish the following actions, as specified in the ALS, as applicable to aeroplane model and depending on aeroplane configuration.
 - (2.1) Replace each component before exceeding the applicable life limit, and
 - (2.2) Within the thresholds and intervals, accomplish all applicable maintenance tasks.



Corrective Action(s):

- (3) In case of finding discrepancies (as defined in the ALS) during accomplishment of any task as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, within the compliance time specified in the ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with applicable Pilatus maintenance documentation. If no compliance time is identified in the ALS, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) before next flight. If a detected discrepancy is not identified in the ALS, before next flight, contact Pilatus for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

AMP Revision:

- (4) Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved AMP by incorporating the limitations, tasks and associated thresholds and intervals described in the ALS, as applicable to aeroplane configuration.

Credit:

- (5) If, before the effective date of this AD, the AMP has been revised to incorporate the maintenance tasks and life limitations as specified in a previous version of the ALS, that action ensures the continued accomplishment of those tasks and limitations.

Consequently, for an aeroplane to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the ALS, as applicable to aeroplane model and depending on configuration, within the compliance times as specified in the ALS to comply with paragraph (2) of this AD.

For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and/or more restrictive tasks and limitations as specified in the ALS, as applicable to aeroplane model and depending on aeroplane configuration, as specified in the ALS, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (4) of this AD.

Recording AD compliance:

- (6) When the AMP of an aeroplane has been revised as required by paragraph (4) or (5) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraphs (2) and (3) of this AD for that aeroplane. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (4) or (5) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual action is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

Ref. Publications:

Pilatus PC-6 ALS Document Number 02334, issue 9 dated 06 March 2020.

Pilatus PC-6 AMM, Chapter 04-00-00, Document Number 01975, issue 29 dated 28 February 2020.

Pilatus PC-6 AMM, Chapter 04-00-00, Document Number 01975 (IAC AR), issue 29 dated 28 February 2020 (approved by EASA on behalf of the Interstate Aviation Committee for aeroplanes registered in the Commonwealth of Independent States).



The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 25 May 2020.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
3. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this PAD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this PAD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: Pilatus Aircraft Ltd, Customer Support General Aviation, CH-6371 Stans, Switzerland, Telephone: +41 848 24 7 365, E-mail: techsupport.ch@pilatus-aircraft.com, Website: www.pilatus-aircraft.com.

