

## Airworthiness Directive

**AD No.:** 2023-0073

**Issued:** 05 April 2023

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) 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.

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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

**Design Approval Holder's Name:**

SAAB AB

**Type/Model designation(s):**

SAAB 340 aeroplanes

**Effective Date:** 19 April 2023

**TCDS Number(s):** EASA.A.068

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Supersedure:** None

### ATA 24 – Electrical Power – DC Starter Generator – Inspection

**Manufacturer(s):**

SAAB AB (SAAB), formerly Saab Aircraft AB

**Applicability:**

SAAB SF340A and SAAB 340B aeroplanes, all serial numbers.

**Definitions:**

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

**The SB:** SAAB Service Bulletin (SB) 340-24-056, which includes reference to (and a copy of) SAFRAN Power USA, LLC Service Information Letter (SIL) 23080-03X-24-03.

**Affected part:** DC starter generators, having Part Number (P/N) 23080-031 Mod M, with brushes P/N 23080-2017 installed which were manufactured in 2021 or later.

**Serviceable part:** An affected part that is new (not previously installed), or that has been repaired or overhauled (new brushes installed) in accordance with the instructions of SAFRAN Power USA, LLC SIL 23080-03X-24-03, or that has passed an inspection (determined to have 60% or more brush life remaining for all brushes) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

**Reason:**

Occurrences have been reported of finding excessive wear on certain brushes installed in affected parts. Particularly the brushes manufactured during 2021 and later show wear that exceeds the expected level during its defined in-service time. Investigation of these events is on-going.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to starter generator failure(s), possibly resulting in total loss of generated electrical power with consequent reduced functional capability of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, SAAB issued the SB, as defined in this AD, to provide inspection instructions.

For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive inspections of each affected part and, depending on findings, replacement with a serviceable part. This AD also requires implementation of affected part installation requirements.

This AD is considered an interim action and further AD action may follow.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

**Inspection(s):**

- (1) Before exceeding 150 flight hours (FH) since first installation of an affected part on an aeroplane, or since latest replacement of the brushes on an affected part, as applicable, or within 50 FH after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed the value as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, inspect the affected part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Table 1 – Affected Part Inspection Interval(s) – see Note 1 of this AD

| Remaining Brush Life   | Inspection Interval |
|--|---------------------|
| 70% or more for all brushes  | 250 FH              |
| 60% or more for all brushes, but less than 70% for one or more brushes | 150 FH              |

Note 1: Upon reaching less than 70% of remaining brush life for one or more brushes, the inspection interval must be reduced accordingly.

**Corrective Action(s):**

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the remaining life of one or more brushes is determined to be less than 60%, before next flight, replace the affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

**Terminating Action:**

- (3) None.



**Part Installation:**

- (4) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install on any aeroplane an affected part, provided it is a serviceable part, as defined in this AD, and that, following installation, it is inspected as required by this AD.

**Reporting Requirements:**

- (5) Within 30 days after each inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, report the results to SAAB AB. This can be done in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

**Ref. Publications:**

SAAB SB 340-24-056 original issue dated 31 March 2023.

SAFRAN Power USA, LLC SIL 23080-03X-24-03 original issue dated 29 March 2023.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned documents 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. Based on the required actions and the compliance time, EASA have decided to issue a Final AD with Request for Comments, postponing the public consultation process until after publication.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu).
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: SAAB AB, SE-581 88 Linköping, Sweden, E-mail: [Saab340.techsupport@saabgroup.com](mailto:Saab340.techsupport@saabgroup.com).

