

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2024-0102

Issued: 17 May 2024

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 M.L.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 M.L.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:

ROLLS-ROYCE DEUTSCHLAND Ltd & Co KG

Type/Model designation(s):

RB211 Trent 700 engines

Effective Date: 31 May 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.E.042

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2018-0188R1 dated 05 September 2018.

ATA 72 – Engine – Low Pressure Compressor Blades – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Rolls-Royce plc (RR)

Applicability:

RB211 Trent 768-60, 772-60, 772B-60 and 772C-60 engines, all serial numbers.

These engines are known to be installed on, but not limited to, Airbus A330 aeroplanes.

Definitions:

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

The NMSB: RR Alert Non-Modification Service Bulletin (NMSB) RB.211-72-AH465 Revision 9.

Where in this AD, reference is made to an RR modification (mod), Service Bulletin (SB) or NMSB with an 'A' (Alert) in the number, it should be recognised that an earlier or later revision may not have that 'A'. This kind of change does not effectively alter the publication references for the purpose of this AD.

Affected part: Low pressure (LP) compressor blades, Part Number (P/N) FK23411, P/N FK25441, P/N FK25968, P/N FW11901, P/N FW15393, P/N FW23643, P/N FW23741, P/N FW23744, P/N KH23403 and P/N KH23404.

NSO: Non-Standard Operations (NSO), as defined in the RR Trent 700 Time Limits Manual (TLM) T-Trent-1RR, section 05-00-01.

Reason:

Occurrences have been reported of LP compressor partial aerofoil blade release events on RR Trent 700 engines. While primary containment of the released sections was achieved in each case, some of the releases did exhibit secondary effects that are considered to present a potential hazard.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to LP compressor blade release with possible consequent loss of the engine nose cowl, under cowl fires and forward projection of secondary debris, possibly resulting in damage to the aeroplane and/or injury to persons on the ground.

To address this potential unsafe condition, RR published NMSB RB.211-72-G872, providing inspection instructions and, consequently, EASA issued AD 2012-0247 to require a one-time inspection of the higher life LP compressor blades. After identification of a population of these LP compressor blades that were incorrectly inspected, RR issued NMSB RB.211-72-H311 and, consequently, EASA issued AD 2013-0060, retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2012-0247, which was superseded, to require a one-time re-inspection of the affected blades.

After that AD was issued, to mitigate the risk of further partial LP compressor blade release events, RR issued NMSB RB.211-72-AH465, providing instructions for ultrasonic inspection of the affected parts to detect sub-surface anomalies in the aerofoil. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2014-0031, superseding AD 2013-0060, to require repetitive inspections of all affected LP compressor blades and, depending on findings, replacement.

Thereafter, EASA issued AD 2016-0141, retaining the requirements of AD 2014-0031, which was superseded, to reduce inspection threshold (RR Alert NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 Revision 2). Prompted by further analysis, EASA issued AD 2017-0241, retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2016-0141, which was superseded, further reducing the inspection threshold and interval (RR Alert NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 Revision 4).

After EASA AD 2017-0241 was issued, RR issued NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 Revision 5 to distinguish between standard operations and NSO, and to determine the applicable inspection threshold and interval, and EASA issued AD 2018-0188 (later revised).

Since AD 2018-0188R1 was issued, RR issued the NMSB, as defined in this AD, to introduce changes to the water-coupled phased array inspection method.

For the reason described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2018-0188R1, which is superseded, and requires implementation of the changes introduced by the NMSB.



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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within the compliance time specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 1 200 FC or standard duty cycles (SDC), as applicable, accomplish an ultrasonic inspection of each affected part in accordance with the instructions of section 3 of the NMSB. Section 1.D of the NMSB contains details on how to determine the applicable SDC (see Note 2 of this AD).

Table 1 – Inspection Threshold (see Note 1 of this AD)

FC / SDC Accumulated	Compliance Time
Less than 1 100 FC/SDC	Before exceeding 1 200 FC/SDC
1 100 FC/SDC or more	Within 100 FC/SDC after the effective date of this AD, or before exceeding 2 400 FC/SDC, whichever occurs first

Note 1: Unless specified otherwise, the FC/SDC referenced in Table 1 of this AD are those accumulated, on 13 September 2018 [the effective date of EASA AD 2018-0188 at original issue], by the affected part since new (first installation on an engine), or since last inspection per Alert NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 (any Revision).

Note 2: Unless specified otherwise, the compliance time and intervals in this AD are specified in SDC for NSO, and in FC for standard operations.

Credit:

- (2) LP compressor blade ultrasonic inspections accomplished in accordance with the instructions referenced in the mandatory inspection section of the applicable engine TLM are acceptable as an alternative method for the repetitive inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, provided the compliance times of this AD are not exceeded.
- (3) LP compressor blade ultrasonic inspections, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of RR NMSB RB.211-72-G702, or NMSB RB.211-72-G872, or NMSB RB.211-72-H311, or Engine Manual (EM) E-Trent-1RR, Task 72-31-11; or Airbus A330 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) Task 72-31-41, are acceptable to comply with the initial inspection requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD.
- (4) LP compressor blade ultrasonic inspections, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of RR NMSB RB.211 72 AH465 up to Revision 8 are acceptable to comply with the initial inspection requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD.

Corrective Action(s):

- (5) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any defect is found on an affected part that exceeds the applicable pass/fail criteria as specified in the NMSB, before next flight, or before release to service of the engine, as applicable, replace the affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the NMSB.



Terminating Action(s):

(6) None.

Part(s) Installation:

(7) From the effective date of this AD, installation on any engine of an affected part is allowed, provided that the part meets the conditions as required by paragraph (7.1) or (7.2) of this AD, as applicable, and that, following installation, the part is inspected as required by this AD.

(7.1) The affected part has not exceeded 1 200 FC (or SDC, for NSO) since new, or since inspection in accordance with RR NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 (at any Revision), or since an inspection as specified in paragraph (2) or (3) of this AD, whichever occurred later.

(7.2) Prior to installation, the affected part has passed an ultrasonic inspection in accordance with the instructions of section 3 of the NMSB.

Ref. Publications:

Rolls-Royce NMSB RB.211-72-G702 original issue dated 23 May 2011.

Rolls-Royce NMSB RB.211-72-G872 original issue dated 02 April 2012, or Revision 1 dated 02 July 2012, or Revision 2 dated 08 March 2013.

Rolls-Royce NMSB RB.211-72-H311 original issue dated 08 March 2013.

Rolls-Royce NMSB RB.211-72-AH465 dated 15 July 2013, or Revision 1 dated 10 July 2015, or Revision 2 dated 11 May 2016, or Revision 3 dated 27 April 2017, or Revision 4 dated 03 October 2017, or Revision 5 dated 26 July 2018, or Revision 6 dated 29 November 2019, or Revision 7 dated 08 July 2020, or Revision 8 dated 16 January 2023, or Revision 9 dated 16 February 2024.

RR Trent 700 EM E-Trent-1RR.

RR Trent 700 TLM T-Trent-1RR.

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

Airbus A330 AMM Task 72-31-41.

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 12 April 2024 as PAD 24-043 for consultation until 10 May 2024. The Comment Response Document can be found in the [EASA Safety Publications Tool](#), in the compressed ('zipped') file, attached to the record for this AD.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: 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 your designated Rolls-Royce representative, or download the publication from your Rolls-Royce Care account at <https://customers.rolls-royce.com>.

If you do not have a designated representative or Rolls-Royce Care account, please contact **Corporate Communications** at **Rolls-Royce plc**, P.O. Box 31, Derby, DE24 8BJ, United Kingdom Telephone +44 (0)1332 242424,

or send an email through http://www.rolls-royce.com/contact/civil_team.jsp identifying the correspondence as being related to **Airworthiness Directives**.

Superseded

