

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2024-0106

Issued: 31 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 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:

AIRBUS S.A.S.

Type/Model designation(s):

A319, A320, A321, A330, A350 and A380 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 14 June 2024

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.004, EASA.A.064, EASA.A.110 and EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 44 – Cabin Systems – Antenna Adapter Plate – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A320-211, A320-212, A320-214, A320-215, A320-216, A320-231, A320-232, A320-233, A320-251N, A320-252N, A320-253N, A320-271N, A320-272N, A320-273N, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231, A321-232, A321-251N, A321-251NX, A321-252N, A321-252NX, A321-253N, A321-253NX, A321-271N, A321-271NX, A321-272N and A321-272NX aeroplanes; and

Airbus A330-201, A330-202, A330-203, A330-223, A330-243, A330-301, A330-302, A330-303, A330-321, A330-322, A330-323, A330-341, A330-342, A330-343, A330-841 and A330-941 aeroplanes; and

Airbus A350-941 and A350-1041 aeroplanes; and

Airbus A380-841, A380-842 and A380-861 aeroplanes;

all manufacturer serial numbers.



OKDefinitions:

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

Affected parts: Broadband antenna adapter plate, skirt, vents and attachment fittings installed, or eligible for installation on an aeroplane, by embodiment of Airbus production modification (MOD) as specified in Appendix 1 of this AD, or in accordance with the instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) listed in Appendix 1 of this AD.

Aeroplane date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title (ownership) of the aeroplane upon delivery by Airbus to the first operator, which is referenced in Airbus documentation.

Panasonic SB: Panasonic Avionics Corporation (Panasonic) SB RDAA903008-01-44-00, SB RDAA903141-01-44-00, SB RDAA903194-01-44-00, SB RDAA903366-01-44-00, SB RDAA903465-01-44-00 or SB RDAA903528-01-44-00, as applicable.

The applicable SB: Airbus SB A320-44-1102, SB A320-44-1103, SB A330-44-3054, SB A350-44-P090 or SB A380-44-8145, as applicable to aeroplane model, and referencing the Panasonic SB.

Groups: Group 1 aeroplanes are those that have an affected part installed.
Group 2 aeroplanes are those that do not have an affected part installed.

Reason:

Corrosion and cracks on the affected parts have been reported after an inspection. Further investigation determined that the affected parts are made of material susceptible to corrosion cracking, and that the recommended maintenance programs do not ensure timely detection of cracks or damages in this area.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to in-flight detachment of radome, antenna and/or affected parts, which could impact the tail section of the aeroplane, possibly resulting in damage to, and reduced control of, the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the applicable SB, which refer to SB issued by Panasonic (current manufacturer of the affected part), to provide inspection instructions for the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive general visual inspections (GVI) of the affected parts, and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the actions required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Inspections:

(1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within the compliance time as specified in Appendix A of the applicable SB, and, thereafter, at intervals not exceeding 36 months, accomplish a GVI of the



affected parts in accordance with the instructions of the Panasonic SB, as referenced in the applicable SB.

Where the applicable SB refers to “years since date of Antenna system embodiment”, the years accumulated on the effective date of this AD since the date of first installation of that affected part on that aeroplane must be used instead; if the affected part was installed during aircraft production or, if the date of first installation is unknown, the aeroplane date of manufacture must be used instead. Where the applicable SB refers to the “SB publication date”, the effective date of this AD must be used instead.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during any GVI as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack and/or corrosion are detected on an affected part, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of the applicable SB, or contact Airbus for approved repair instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly, or replace that part with a serviceable part (see paragraph (5) of this AD).

Terminating Action:

- (3) None.

Reporting:

- (4) Within 30 days after each GVI as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, report the inspection results (including no findings for the first inspection only) to Airbus. Using the inspection report attached to the applicable SB is an acceptable method to comply with this requirement.

Part(s) Installation:

- (5) For Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of the AD, it is allowed to install an affected part on an aeroplane, provided it is new or that it has accumulated less than 36 months since previous GVI, or that, before next flight after installation, it is inspected and, depending on findings, corrective action are accomplished as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD (see Note 1 of this AD).

After installation of affected part on a Group 2 aeroplane, the aeroplane is effectively considered a Group 1 and must be inspected as required by this AD.

Note 1: Removal of an affected part and reinstallation of an affected part on the same aeroplane, accomplished during a single maintenance visit, is not considered as installation as specified in paragraph (5) of this AD.

Credit:

- (6) Inspection(s) and corrective action(s), accomplished on an aeroplane, before the effective date of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-44-8145 original issue are acceptable to comply with the initial requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, as applicable, for that aeroplane.



Alternative Method of Compliance:

(7) Inspection(s) accomplished on an aeroplane, in accordance with the instructions of the following Maintenance Procedures are acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD, for that aeroplane:

A320: TASK 44-33-21-400-801-A - Installation of the Adapter Plate Kit.

A330: TASK 44-33-21-400-801-A - Installation of the Adapter Plate-Kit.

A350: TASK A350-A-44-33-11-A7001-720A-A - Installation of the Broadband Antenna Adapter-Plate.

A380: TASK 44-33-25-400-801-A - Installation of the Adapter Plate Kit.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A320-44-1102 original issue dated 22 December 2023.

Airbus SB A320-44-1103 original issue dated 22 December 2023.

Airbus SB A330-44-3054 original issue dated 22 December 2023.

Airbus SB A350-44-P090 original issue dated 22 December 2023.

Airbus SB A380-44-8145 revision 1 dated 22 April 2024.

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

Panasonic SB RDAA903008-01-44-00 original issue dated 30 October 2023 and Revision 1 dated 14 December 2023.

Panasonic SB RDAA903141-01-44-00 original issue dated 30 October 2023 and Revision 1 dated 18 December 2023.

Panasonic SB RDAA903194-01-44-00 original issue dated 30 October 2023 and Revision 1 dated 14 December 2023.

Panasonic SB RDAA903366-01-44-00 original issue dated 26 June 2023, Revision 1 dated 27 October 2023 and Revision 2 dated 21 December 2023.

Panasonic SB RDAA903465-01-44-00 original issue dated 30 October 2023 and Revision 1 dated 19 December 2023.

Panasonic SB RDAA903528-01-44-00 original issue dated 30 October 2023 and Revision 1 dated 19 December 2023.



Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 18 March 2024 as PAD 24-034 for consultation until 15 April 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: AIRBUS, as specified below:

For A320 family program: Airworthiness Office,
E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com

For A330 family program: Airworthiness Office,
E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com

For A350 family program: Airworthiness Office,
E-mail: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com

For A380 family program: Airworthiness Office,
E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com



Appendix 1 – List of MOD/SB Installing Affected Parts

Production MOD	Program Applicability	Retrofit SB	KIT Part Number	Designation
113406 115826 108765	A350	-	RD-AA903366-01 RDAA903366-01*	TOP KIT - Antenna System, PAC GCS, Single Panel antenna (SPA)
100549	A350	-	RD-AA903008-01 RDAA903008-01*	TOP KIT - Antenna System, PAC GCS, Dual Panel Antenna (DPA)
73057	A380	A380-44-8112 or A380-44-8113	RD-AA903141-01 RDAA903141-01*	Adapter Plate Installation Kit DPA
203251 204608	A330	A330-44-3025	RD-AA903194-01 RDAA903194-01*	Adapter Plate Installation Kit DPA
207191	A330	A330-44-3025	RD-AA903528-01 RDAA903528-01*	Adapter Plate Installation Kit SPA
158784 160690	A320	-	RD-AA903465-01 RDAA903465-01*	Adapter Plate Installation Kit SPA

* PN as mentioned in Reference Publication Airbus' SBs

