European Union Aviation Safety Agency

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2026-0058

Issued: 17 March 2026

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):

A330 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 31 March 2026

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.004

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 55 – Stabilizers – NACA Vent Intake Panel – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A330-202, A330-243, A330-243F, A330-302, A330-323, A330-343, A330-841 and A330-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) having Airbus modification (mod) 204955 embodied, except those which have Airbus mod 211016 embodied.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A330-55-3054.

Reason:

Investigation revealed a potential discrepant gap between the NACA panel and horizontal tail plane skin.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to a fuel leak through the access panel edge, possibly resulting in improper protection against lightning ignition risk, and increased risk of a fire.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus published the SB, providing instructions for modification of NACA vent intake panel installation.

For the reason described above, this AD requires modification of NACA vent intake panel installation.

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:

Modification:

(1) Within 21 months after the effective date of this AD, replace each screw Part Number (P/N) NAS1153V9, installed on NACA vent intake panel 346AB, with screws P/N NAS1153V8, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Part(s) Installation:

(2) After modification of an aeroplane as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, do not install any screw P/N NAS1153V9 on the NACA vent intake panel 346AB of that aeroplane.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A330-55-3054 original issue dated 29 January 2026.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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 10 February 2026 as PAD 26-029 for consultation until 10 March 2026. 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 – 1IAL (Airworthiness Office), E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.