Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2026-0220

Issued: 18 November 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):

A350 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 02 December 2026

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 52 – Doors – Forward and Aft Cargo Door Seals – Replacement

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Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 and A350-1041 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-52-P078**.**

MP task: Maintenance Procedure (MP) A350-A-52-33-XX-00ZZZ-685Z-A "Repair of the Seal of the Cargo-Compartment Doors" dated earlier than 01 May 2026.

Affected parts: Forward (FWD) and aft cargo door seals having Part Number (P/N) V0007007220200 or P/N V0007007320200, and which have been repaired in service in accordance with the instructions of the MP task (see Note 1 of this AD).

Note 1: A review of aeroplane maintenance records is an acceptable method to determine whether a repair has been accomplished on a cargo door seal, provided those records can be relied upon for

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that purpose. As an alternative to the review of aeroplane maintenance records, the SB provides instructions for a visual inspection of the cargo door seal.

Serviceable part: Any FWD and aft cargo door seal, eligible for installation in accordance with Airbus approved instructions, that is not an affected part.

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

Reason:

Airbus identified that maintenance procedure MP A350-A-52-33-XX-00ZZZ-685Z-A has been incorrectly published as a permanent repair, even if it was designed and validated as a temporary repair. Application of this repair may lead to unpredictable cargo door seal behaviour, resulting in potentially degraded airtightness and reduced halon retention capability in the cargo compartment.

This condition, if not corrected, could affect the fire extinguishing system efficiency in the cargo compartments, possibly resulting in failure of the system to contain a cargo compartment fire.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB to provide replacement instructions of the affected parts.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected parts with serviceable parts, and prohibits (re)installation of affected parts.

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:

Part(s) Replacement:

(1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, replace each affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Additional Maintenance Requirements:

(2) For Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, do not accomplish any maintenance action on any aeroplane in accordance with the instructions of the MP task, as defined in this AD.

Part(s) Installation:

(3) For Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, do not (re)install on any aeroplane any affected part, and do not install on any aeroplane a cargo door having an affected part installed.

Acceptable Method of Compliance:

(4) Replacing a cargo door having an affected part installed with a cargo door having serviceable parts installed is an acceptable method to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD for that affected part. The Aircraft Maintenance Manual provides instructions which are acceptable to replace the cargo door.

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Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-52-P078 original issue dated 08 September 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. The original issue of this AD was posted on 15 October 2026 as PAD 26-124 for consultation until 12 November 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 S.A.S. A350 XWB (1IAK), E-mail: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

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