



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2014-0016R4

Issued: 14 December 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 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, 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 agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS

Type/Model designation(s):

A380 aeroplanes

Effective Date: Revision 4: 14 December 2016
 Revision 3: 27 July 2016
 Revision 2: 12 February 2016
 Revision 1: 30 October 2014
 Original issue: 29 January 2014

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.110

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2014-0016R3 dated 27 July 2016. The original issue of this AD superseded EASA AD 2012-0153 dated 23 August 2012.

ATA 57 – Wings – Wing Inboard Leading Edge Droop Nose Gooseneck – Inspection / Repair / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A380-841, A380-842 and A380-861 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN), except aeroplanes that have embodied Airbus modification (mod) 73979, mod 73981 and mod 73983 in production.

Reason:

Crack initiations were reported on A380 aeroplanes on the wing inboard leading edge droop nose gooseneck brackets, intercostals and panel end support assembly. The results of a preliminary investigation revealed an unexpected load level and high peak stresses on the affected gooseneck brackets.



This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to in-flight loss of a droop nose panel, possibly resulting in injury to persons on the ground.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued Alert Operator Transmission (AOT) A57R001-12 to provide inspection instructions. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2012-0153 to require repetitive detailed inspections (DET) of the Inboard Outer Fixed Leading Edge (IOFLE) forward intercostals and gooseneck brackets and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective actions.

Since that AD was issued, Airbus issued Service Bulletin (SB) A380-57-8087, which retained the instructions of AOT A57R001-12, clarified the inspection area, and included repair instructions. Airbus also determined that extended inspection threshold and intervals could be applied for post-mod 73460 and post-SB A380-57-8071 aeroplanes.

Based on those findings, EASA issued AD 2014-0016 (later revised), retaining the requirements of EASA AD 2012-0153, which was superseded, but required those actions in accordance with the updated service instructions. That AD also introduced extended inspection threshold and intervals for post-mod 73460 and post-SB A380-57-8071 aeroplanes.

Following issuance of EASA AD 2014-0016, Airbus issued SB A380-57-8089, SB A380-57-8108, SB A380-57-8109, SB A380-57-8110 and SB A380-57-8131, applicable to certain in-service aeroplanes (as defined by MSN), to provide modification instructions for installation of reinforced IOFLE structure. Consequently, EASA revised AD 2014-0016 to introduce references to these Airbus SBs as optional terminating action for the required repetitive inspections.

Since EASA issued AD 2014-0016R3, Airbus issued SB A380-57-8134, SB A380-57-8135 and SB A380-57-8143 to provide instructions for installation of reinforced IOFLE structure on certain other (as defined by MSN) aeroplanes.

For the reason described above, this AD is revised to introduce reference to above-mentioned Airbus SBs as optional terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by this AD. This AD also introduces some editorial changes, without changing the required actions.

Additional Airbus SB's are still under development to allow the installation of reinforced IOFLE structure on aeroplanes whose MSN is not listed in Airbus SB A380-57-8089, or SB A380-57-8108, or SB A380-57-8109, or SB A380-57-8110, or SB A380-57-8131, or SB A380-57-8134, or SB A380-57-8135, or SB A380-57-8143. When other SB's become available, this AD is expected to be revised again.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspections:

- (1) Before exceeding the threshold(s) and, thereafter, at intervals not exceeding the values as defined in Appendix 1 of this AD, as applicable, depending on aeroplane configuration, accomplish a DET of the IOFLE forward intercostals, gooseneck brackets and panel end support, as applicable to gooseneck bracket position, on the left hand and right hand wing in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-57-8087.



Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as defined in Airbus SB A380-57-8087, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective actions in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-57-8087, as applicable to gooseneck bracket position.
- (3) Inspections and corrective actions on an aeroplane, accomplished before 29 January 2014 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD] in accordance with the instructions of Airbus AOT A57R001-12 are acceptable to comply with the initial requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.
After 29 January 2014 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], the repetitive inspections and applicable corrective actions must be accomplished in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-57-8087.

Terminating Action(s):

- (4) Accomplishment of corrective actions on an aeroplane, as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, or as specified in paragraph (3) of this AD, as applicable, does not constitute terminating action for the repetitive inspections required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that aeroplane.
- (5) Modification of an aeroplane in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-57-8089, or SB A380-57-8108, or SB A380-57-8109, or SB A380-57-8110, or SB A380-57-8131, or SB A380-57-8134, or SB A380-57-8135, or SB A380-57-8143, as applicable, depending on aeroplane MSN, constitutes terminating action for the repetitive DET as required by paragraph (1) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus AOT A57R001-12 original issue dated 14 May 2012.

Airbus SB A380-57-8071 original issue dated 18 June 2013.

Airbus SB A380-57-8087 original issue dated 28 November 2013.

Airbus SB A380-57-8089 original issue dated 01 October 2014.

Airbus SB A380-57-8108 original issue dated 05 October 2015.

Airbus SB A380-57-8109 original issue dated 11 February 2016.

Airbus SB A380-57-8110 original issue dated 01 October 2015.

Airbus SB A380-57-8131 original issue dated 15 March 2016.

Airbus SB A380-57-8134 original issue dated 04 August 2016.

Airbus SB A380-57-8135 original issue dated 04 August 2016.

Airbus SB A380-57-8143 original issue dated 17 October 2016.



The use of later approved revisions of these 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. The original issue of this AD was posted on 20 December 2013 as PAD 13-188 for consultation until 10 January 2014. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS SAS - EIANA (Airworthiness Office), Telephone : +33 562 110 253, Fax: +33 562 110 307, E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com.

Revised



Appendix 1 – Inspections

Aeroplane Configuration	Flight Cycles (FC) accumulated [by the aeroplane, on 06 September 2012, the effective date of the EASA AD 2012-0153]	Compliance Time (as applicable, A or B)	Interval
Pre-Mod 73460, or pre-SB A380-57-8071	Less than 1 200 FC	A: Before exceeding 1 200 FC since aeroplane first flight, or within 350 FC after 06 September 2012 [the effective date of EASA AD 2012-0153], whichever occurs later B: Within 1 200 FC since last inspection in accordance with Airbus AOT A57R001-12	1 200 FC
	1 200 FC or more, but less than 1 500 FC	A: Within 350 FC after 06 September 2012 [the effective date of EASA AD 2012-0153], but not exceeding 1 750 FC since aeroplane first flight B: Within 1 200 FC since last inspection in accordance with Airbus AOT A57R001-12	
	1 500 FC or more	A: Within 250 FC after 06 September 2012 [the effective date of the EASA AD 2012-0153] B: Within 1 200 FC since last inspection in accordance with Airbus AOT A57R001-12	
Post-Mod 73460, or post-SB A380-57-8071	Not applicable	Before exceeding 3 800 FC since aeroplane first flight, or since accomplishment of Airbus SB A380-57-8071, as applicable	1 400 FC

