



Notification of a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 16-018

Issued: 03 February 2016

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) 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.

In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below.

All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation date indicated.

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS

Type/Model designation(s):

A330 and A340 aeroplanes

Effective Date: [TBD - standard: 14 days after AD issue date]

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.004 and EASA.A.015

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2012-0168 dated 31 August 2013.

ATA 05 – Time Limits / Maintenance Checks – Fuel Airworthiness Limitations / ALS Part 5 – Amendment

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus (formerly Airbus Industrie)

Applicability:

Airbus A330-201, A330-202, A330-203, A330-223, A330-243, A330-223F, A330-243F, A330-301, A330-302, A330-303, A330-321, A330-322, A330-323, A330-341, A330-342 and A330-343 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN), and

Airbus A340-211, A340-212, A340-213, A340-311, A340-312, A340-313, A340-541, A340-542, A340-642 and A340-643 aeroplanes, all MSN.

Reason:

Prompted by an accident of a Boeing 747-131 (flight TWA800), the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) published Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) 88, and the Joint Aviation Authorities (JAA) published Interim Policy INT/POL/25/12. A design review was conducted by Airbus to develop Fuel



Airworthiness Limitations (FAL) for Airbus A330 and A340 aeroplanes in response to these regulations.

The FAL, which are approved by EASA, are defined and published in Airbus A330 and A340 Airworthiness Limitations Section (ALS) documents known as Part 5. Failure to comply with these instructions could result in a fuel tank explosion and consequent loss of the aeroplane.

EASA issued AD 2012-0168 to require compliance with the FAL as specified in the A330 and A340 ALS Part 5 Revision 00.

Since that AD was issued, Airbus issued Revision 01 of both ALS Parts 5 for Airbus A330 and A340 (hereafter collectively referred to as 'the ALS' in this AD) to introduce more restrictive maintenance requirements and/or airworthiness limitations.

For the reason described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2012-0168, which is superseded, and requires accomplishment of the actions specified in the ALS.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) From the effective date of this AD, accomplish all applicable FAL maintenance tasks before exceeding the applicable thresholds, and, thereafter, within the intervals (see Note 1 of this AD), as specified in the ALS.

Note 1: For the purpose of this AD, the thresholds and intervals as defined in the ALS includes compliance times as defined in that document for certain tasks.

- (2) **Corrective Action(s):** In case of finding discrepancies during accomplishment of any task as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, before next flight, accomplish the applicable maintenance procedures for corrective actions in accordance with the approved maintenance documentation. If a detected discrepancy is not identified in the ALS, before next flight, contact Airbus for approved instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.
- (3) **Aircraft Maintenance Programme (AMP) Revision:** Within 12 months after the effective date of this AD, revise the approved aircraft maintenance programme (AMP), on the basis of which the operator or the owner ensures the continuing airworthiness of each operated aeroplane, by incorporating the limitations, tasks and associated thresholds and intervals described in the ALS.
- (4) **Credit:** For an AMP that, on the effective date of this AD, is already updated to incorporate the maintenance tasks and life limitations as specified in the previous A330 or A340 ALS Part 5 Revision 00, as previously required by EASA AD 2012-0168, that action ensures (see Note 2 of this AD) the continued accomplishment of those tasks and limitations.

Consequently, for an aircraft to which that AMP applies, it is acceptable to accomplish the new and more restrictive tasks and limitations, as defined in, and within the compliance times (see Note 1 of this AD) as specified in, the ALS, to comply with paragraph (1) of this AD.



For that AMP, it is acceptable to incorporate the new and more restrictive tasks and limitations, as defined in the ALS, into the AMP to comply with paragraph (3) of this AD.

- (5) When the AMP of an aeroplane has been revised as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, that action ensures (see Note 2 of this AD) continued accomplishment of the tasks as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for that aeroplane. Consequently, after revising the AMP, as required by paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, it is not necessary that accomplishment of individual tasks is recorded for demonstration of AD compliance on a continued basis.

Note 2: For affected Airbus A330 and A340 aeroplanes registered in Europe, complying with the approved AMP, as specified in paragraph (3) or (4) of this AD, as applicable, is required by Commission Regulation (EU) No [1321/2014](#), Part M.A.301, paragraph 3.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus A330 ALS Part 5 Revision 01, dated 28 October 2015.

Airbus A340 ALS Part 5 Revision 01, dated 28 October 2015.

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

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 02 March 2016.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: AIRBUS – Airworthiness Office – EAL.
E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.

