



Notification of a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 16-023

Issued: 10 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:

EADS-CASA

Type/Model designation(s):

CN-235 and C-295 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.186

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 55 – Stabilizers – Elevator Hinge Fittings – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

EADS-CASA, formerly Construcciones Aeronáuticas S.A.(CASA)

Applicability:

CN-235, CN-235-100, CN-235-200, CN-235-300 and C-295 aeroplanes, manufacturer serial numbers 001 through 281 inclusive.

Reason:

Excessive play between bushings and their respective fitting housing was reported at Stabilizer Station (STA) 4850, affecting the outboard and inboard elevator hinge fittings and attachment fittings; and the horizontal stabilizer elevator linkage. Additionally, excessive misalignment was detected between the elevator hinge fittings and the elevator brackets during further analysis of the reported cases. Furthermore, an occurrence of an elevator hinge fitting crack was reported.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to failure or detachment of any of the affected structural parts, possibly resulting in reduced control of aeroplane.

To address this potentially unsafe condition, Airbus Defence & Space (D&S) issued Alert Operator Transmissions (AOT) AOT-CN235-55-0001 Revision 2 and AOT-C295-55-0001 Revision 2 to provide



inspection instructions to detect misalignment between the elevator hinge fittings and the elevator brackets. Additionally, Airbus D&S issued AOT-CN235-55-0003 and AOT-C295-55-0003 to provide inspection instructions to detect cracking of elevator hinge fitting and attachment fitting.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the elevator hinge fittings and the elevator brackets, repetitive inspections of elevator hinge fittings and attachment fittings, and depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) Before exceeding 600 flight hours (FH) since first flight of the aeroplane, or within 300 FH after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, but not before exceeding 300 FH since first flight of the aeroplane, inspect the elevator hinge fitting and bracket assembly in accordance with the instructions of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0001 Revision 2 or AOT-C295-55-0001 Revision 2, as applicable to aeroplane model.
- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as defined in the instructions of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0001 Revision 2 or AOT-C295-55-0001 Revision 2, as applicable to aeroplane model, before next flight, accomplish all the applicable corrective actions in accordance with the instructions of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0001 Revision 2 or AOT-C295-55-0001 Revision 2, as applicable to aeroplane model.
- (3) Accomplishment of an inspection on an aeroplane, before the effective date of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0001 original issue or Revision 1 or AOT-C295-55-0001 original issue or Revision 1, is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD, provided that the aeroplane has embodied an additional repair approved by Airbus D&S on the affected elevator hinge fittings.
- (4) Within the compliance defined in Table 1 of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0003 or AOT-C295-55-0003, as applicable to aeroplane model and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed the value defined in Table 2 of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0003 or AOT-C295-55-0003, as applicable to aeroplane model, inspect the elevator hinge fitting and attachment fitting in accordance with the instructions of Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0003 or AOT-C295-55-0003, as applicable to aeroplane model.
- (5) If, during any inspection, as required by paragraph (4) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, as defined in Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0003 or AOT-C295-55-0003, as applicable to aeroplane model, before next flight, contact Airbus D&S for approved repair instructions and within the compliance time specified in those repair instructions, accomplish the repair accordingly.
- (6) Accomplishment of a repair, as required by paragraph (5) of this AD does not constitute a terminating action for repetitive inspections, as required by paragraph (4) of this AD, unless explicitly stated in those repair instructions.



Ref. Publications:

Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0001 original issue, dated 16 December 2014 or Revision 1, dated 06 March 2015 or Revision 2, dated 10 March 2015.

Airbus D&S AOT-C295-55-0001 original issue, dated 06 December 2014 or Revision 1, dated 18 March 2015 or Revision 2, dated 09 April 2015.

Airbus D&S AOT-CN235-55-0003, dated 22 December 2015.

Airbus D&S AOT-C295-55-0003 original issue, dated 22 December 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 09 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 Defence and Space, Services / Engineering Support, Fax: +34 91 585 3127, E-mail: MTA.TechnicalService@airbus.com.
For US operators, contact E-mail: TechnicalSupport@airbusmilitaryna.com.

