

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2017-0098R1

Issued: 07 April 2025

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

Type/Model designation(s):

A319, A320, and A321 aeroplanes

Effective Date: Revision 1: 14 April 2025
 Original issue: 07 June 2017

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.064

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2017-0098 dated 07 June 2017, which superseded EASA AD 2014-0081 dated 31 March 2014.

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Potable Water and Wastewater Service Panels – Reinforcement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A320-211, A320-212, A320-214, A320-215, A320-216, A320-231, A320-232, A320-233, A321-111, A321-112, A321-131, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231 and A321-232 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification (mod) 160055 or mod 160056 has been embodied in production, and except A319 aeroplanes on which mod 28162, 28238 and 28342 have been embodied ("Corporate Jet").

Reason:

During the full-scale fatigue test on A320-200 aeroplanes, it was noticed that, due to fatigue, cracks could initiate at the potable water and wastewater service panel areas.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could affect the structural integrity of the aeroplane.

Prompted by these findings, Airworthiness Limitation Section (ALS) Part 2 tasks were introduced for the affected aeroplanes. Since those actions were taken, Airbus developed production mod 160055



and mod 160056 to embody reinforcements (cold working on certain rivet rows) of the potable water and wastewater service panels and published associated Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A320-53-1272 and Airbus SB A320-53-1267 for in-service embodiment. Complementary design office studies highlighted that the “Sharklets” installation on certain aeroplanes has a significant impact on the aeroplane structure (particularly, A319 and A320 post-mod 160001, A320 post-SB A320-57-1193 (mod 160080), and A321 post-mod 160021), leading to different compliance times, depending on aeroplane configuration.

Consequently, EASA issued AD 2014-0081 to require reinforcement of the potable water and wastewater service panels. Accomplishment of these modifications cancelled the need for the related ALS Part 2 Tasks.

After AD 2014-0081 was issued, further investigations linked to the Widespread Fatigue Damage (WFD) analysis highlighted that, to meet the WFD requirements, it is necessary that the affected modification is not accomplished before reaching a certain threshold, by imposing a so-called “window of embodiment”. Consequently, Airbus revised SB A320-53-1272 (Rev. 04) and SB A320-53-1267 (Rev. 05), and EASA issued AD 2017-0098, superseding EASA AD 2014-0081, to introduce additional compliance times for those actions.

Since that AD was issued, the applicable Airworthiness Limitation Section (ALS) Part 2 has been updated. As a result of this update, several inspection tasks have been removed. Moreover, it has been determined that the modifications threshold (window of embodiment) can be extended.

This AD is revised accordingly, introducing updated Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

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:

- (1) Within the compliance times as specified in Appendix 1 of this AD, as applicable, modify the potable water service panel in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-53-1272 Rev. 04.
- (2) Within the compliance times as specified in Appendix 2 of this AD, as applicable, modify the wastewater service panel in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-53-1267 Rev. 05.
- (3) For aeroplanes on which the modification, as required by paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, as applicable, was accomplished before reaching the applicable threshold (window of embodiment) as defined in Appendix 1 or 2 of this AD, as applicable, before exceeding 60 000 flight cycles (FC) since aeroplane first flight, contact Airbus for approved corrective action instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.
- (4) Modification of an aeroplane, before 21 June 2017 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD] in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-53-1272 at original issue, or Rev. 01, Rev. 02 or Rev. 03 is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD



for that aeroplane.

Requirements of paragraph (3) of this AD remain applicable.

Modification of an aeroplane, before 21 June 2017 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD] in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-53-1267 at original issue, or Rev. 01, or Rev. 02, or Rev. 03, or Rev. 04 is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Requirements of paragraph (3) of this AD remain applicable.

- (5) Modification of an aeroplane as required by paragraph (1) of this AD cancels the need to accomplish the ALS Part 2 task for that aeroplane as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable.

Table 1 – ALS Part 2 Task terminated after Potable Water Service Panel Reinforcement

Affected Aeroplanes	ALS Part 2 Task N°
A319, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	534125-01-2
A320, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	534125-01-3

- (6) Modification of an aeroplane as required by paragraph (2) of this AD cancels the need to accomplish the ALS Part 2 task for that aeroplane as specified in Table 2 of this AD, as applicable.

Table 2 – ALS Part 2 Task terminated after Wastewater Service Panel reinforcement

Affected aeroplanes	ALS Part 2 Task N°
A319, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	534126-01-2
A320, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	534126-01-3

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A320-53-1267 original issue dated 24 June 2013, or Rev. 01 dated 02 October 2013, or Rev. 02 dated 19 May 2014, or Rev. 03 dated 26 November 2015, or Rev. 04 dated 01 February 2016 or Rev. 05 dated 29 November 2016, or Rev. 06 dated 17 May 2019.

Airbus SB A320-53-1272 original issue dated 10 January 2013, or Rev. 01 dated 06 August 2013, or Rev. 02 dated 19 May 2014, or Rev. 03 dated 26 November 2015, or Rev. 04 dated 29 November 2016, or Rev. 05 dated 17 May 2019.

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 March 2017 as PAD 17-035 for consultation until 17 April 2017. The Comment Response Document can be found at <http://ad.easa.europa.eu> 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 – Airworthiness Office – 1IASA; E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com.

CORRECTED



Note 1: For the purpose of Appendices 1 and 2 of this AD, A321-111, A321-112 and A321-131 aeroplanes are collectively referred to as “A321-100”. Similarly, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231 and A321-232 aeroplanes are collectively referred to as “A321-200”.

Appendix 1 – Potable Water Service Panel Reinforcement

Affected Aeroplanes (see Note 1 of this AD)	Modification Threshold (window of embodiment – not before accumulating the specified FC since aeroplane first flight)	Compliance Time (before exceeding the specified FC since aeroplane first flight)
A319, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	2 500 FC	48 500 FC
A319, post-mod 160001 or post-SB A320-57-1193	None	46 000 FC
A320, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	None	54 200 FC
A320, post-mod 160001 or post-SB A320-57-1193	None	48 300 FC
A321-100	None	60 000 FC
A321-200 pre-mod 160021	None	
A321-200 post-mod 160021	None	



Appendix 2 – Wastewater Service Panel Reinforcement

Affected Aeroplanes (see Note 1 of this AD)	Modification Threshold (window of embodiment – not before accumulating the specified FC since aeroplane first flight)	Compliance Time (before exceeding the specified FC since aeroplane first flight)
A319, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	8 500 FC	44 400 FC
A319, post-mod 160001 or post-SB A320-57-1193	None	43 600 FC
A320, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193	None	See Appendix 3 of this AD
A320, post-mod 160001 or post-SB A320-57-1193	None	39 200 FC
A321-100	None	52 500 FC
A321-200 pre-mod 160021	None	53 500 FC
A321-200 post-mod 160021	None	51 200 FC

Appendix 3 – Wastewater Service Panel Reinforcement for A320 aeroplanes, pre-mod 160001 and pre-SB A320-57-1193

Compliance Time (whichever occurs later, A or B)	
A	Before exceeding 46 400 FC since aeroplane first flight
B	Within 2 300 FC since last accomplishment of ALS Part 2 Task N°534126-01-3 without exceeding 48 000 FC since aeroplane first flight

