



Notification of a proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 17-053

Issued: 26 April 2017

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):

A350 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Potable Water Tank Brackets – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) 0021 to 0025 inclusive, 0027 to 0029 inclusive, 0032 to 0036 inclusive, 0038 to 0040 inclusive, 0042 to 0053 inclusive, 0055 to 0058 inclusive, 0061, 0064, 0066 and 0067.

Reason:

During the qualification vibration testing of a new potable water tank, the primary structure bracket, installed at frame (FR) 89 between stringer (STGR) 37 and STGR38 on left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) sides, failed. Results of the subsequent investigation revealed that this bracket could not withstand cyclic loads generated during a possible sustained engine vibration. In case of failure of the affected bracket structure, the band clamp of the cradle, onto which the potable water tank is installed, would possibly fail as well, resulting in a free movement of the potable water tank.



This condition, if not corrected, could lead to damage of adjacent system installations and consequent improper functioning of an affected system, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane, due to system failure(s).

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus developed reinforced brackets made from titanium, which are embodied in production through Airbus modification 110244, and introduced in service through Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-53-P017.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected brackets with reinforced parts.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

- (1) Within 7 months after the effective date of this AD, replace the affected brackets installed at FR89 between STGR37 and STGR38 on LH and RH sides with reinforced brackets in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A350-53-P017.
- (2) From the effective date of this AD, installation of a primary structure bracket, installed at FR89 between stringer STGR37 and STGR38 on LH or RH side is allowed, provided the part is a reinforced bracket as defined in the instructions of Airbus SB A350-53-P017, Part Number (P/N) V5347426500090 for LH side, and P/N V5347426500290 for RH side.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-53-P017 original issue, dated 25 January 2017.

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

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 10 May 2017.
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: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

