



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-005

Issued: 17 January 2018

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 – Vertical Stabilizer Tension Bolts – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification (mod) 108307 and mod 110696, or mod 110898 has been embodied in production.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The aeroplane date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title (ownership) which is referenced in Airbus documentation at the time of first delivery to an operator.

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-55-P002.

Reason:

It was identified that the section 19 holes for the Vertical Tail Plane (VTP) tension bolts connection are not properly protected against corrosion.



This condition, if not corrected, could reduce the structural integrity of the VTP.

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus developed production mod 108307 and mod 110696 to improve protection against corrosion, and issued the SB to provide in-service modification instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a modification by adding sealant and protective treatment to the head of the section 19 VTP tension bolts connection, at the barrel nut cavities and in the surrounding area.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

Before exceeding 36 months since the aeroplane date of manufacture, or within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, accomplish concurrently the actions as required by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

- (1) Apply sealant and protective treatment at tension bolt heads and at the barrel nut cavities, on Left Hand (LH) and Right Hand (RH) side.
- (2) Install shouldered caps in the inner hole of the root joint fittings, on LH and RH side.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-55-P002 original issue, dated 21 December 2017.

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

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 31 January 2018.
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.

