



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-012

Issued: 29 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):

A380 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.110

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 35 – Oxygen – Main Passenger Oxygen Distribution Line Flexible Hoses – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A380-841, A380-842 and A380-861 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN).

Definitions:

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

The applicable SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A380-35-8035 or SB A380-35-8040, as applicable to MSN.

Affected hose: Flexible hose, Part Number (P/N) 57221D16-0146A0.

Affected area: Upper deck (UD) crossbeam area between frame (FR) 55 and FR56, and between FR74 and FR75; and UD framework area between FR37 and FR38, between FR55 and FR56, and between FR73 and FR74.



Groups: Group 1 aeroplanes are those that have an affected hose installed in an affected area. Group 2 aeroplanes are those that do not have an affected hose installed in any affected area. An aeroplane that has embodied Airbus modification (mod) 74457 in production is a Group 2 aeroplane, provided the aeroplane remains in that configuration.

Serviceable part: Flexible hose, P/N 57321D16-0175A0 or P/N 57221D16-0175A0, as applicable.

Reason:

Following Airbus quality control review on the final assembly line, it was identified that the oxygen flexible hoses of the main oxygen distribution line, which are located between FR55 and FR56, were installed too tight. Subsequent investigation results identified that flexible hoses installed in additional locations were also affected by this issue. It was also determined that flexible hoses affected by this installation deficiency might not sustain deformation(s) of the fuselage (elongation) under limit load.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to rupture of an affected hose and consequent oxygen leakage, reducing the available oxygen capacity of the aeroplane, possibly resulting in injury to cabin occupants following a depressurization event.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus developed production mod 74457, replacing the affected hoses in the affected areas with hoses of longer size, and issued the applicable SB to provide modification instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected hoses with improved parts. This AD also prohibits installation of affected hoses on any aeroplane.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

- (1) Before exceeding 12 years since first flight of the aeroplane, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, replace each affected hose in each affected area with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the applicable SB.

Part installation:

- (2) Do not install an affected hose in any affected area on any aeroplane, as required by paragraph (2.1) or (2.2) of this AD, as applicable.

(2.1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: After modification of the aeroplane as required by paragraph (1) of this AD.

(2.2) For Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A380-35-8035 original issue, dated 09 May 2017.

Airbus SB A380-35-8040 original issue, dated 23 January 2018.



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

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 26 February 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: AIRBUS - EIANA (Airworthiness Office), Telephone: +33 562 110 253, Fax: +33 562 110 307, E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com.

