



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-015

Issued: 02 February 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):

A321 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.064

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 57 – Wings – Rib 5 to Rear Spar Attachment – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus (formerly Airbus Industrie)

Applicability:

Airbus A321-111, A321-112, A321-131, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231 and A321-232 aeroplanes, manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) listed in Appendix 1 of this AD.

Reason:

During removal of the left hand (LH) rib 5, two of the fasteners (bolts) attaching the rib to the wing inner rear spar were found to have failed and two more failed during their removal. Two of the bolts were found separated from the bolt shanks when the overcoat sealant was being removed, and the other two bolt heads broke away during removal.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could reduce the structural integrity of the wing.

To address this possible unsafe condition, Airbus issued Service Bulletin (SB) A320-57-1167 to provide inspection instructions. After that SB was issued, a potential manufacturing issue was identified on early production A321 concerning reports of fasteners "jamming" during installation on spar assemblies. A process change was introduced in production line, and SB A320-57-1167 was



revised, changing the affected population to include all A321 aeroplanes delivered before the introduction of that process change.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time special detailed inspection (SDI) of the wing rib 5-to-rear spar attachments, both LH and right hand (RH) wings, and, depending on findings, accomplishment of a repair. This AD also requires the reporting of findings.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within 30 months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish an SDI of the rib 5-to-rear spar attachment, both RH and LH wings, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-57-1167 Revision 01.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the SDI as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any cracked or failed bolt is found, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-57-1167 Revision 01.

Credit:

- (3) Inspection and corrective action(s) on an aeroplane, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-57-1167 at original issue, are acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) and (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Reporting

- (4) Within 30 days after the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD report the results (including no findings) to Airbus.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A320-57-1167 original issue dated 11 August 2011, or Revision 01 dated 16 January 2018.

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 02 March 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 – Airworthiness Office – EIAS; Fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com.



Appendix 1

Affected aeroplanes – MSN									
0364	0385	0412	0434	0458	0468	0473	0474	0477	0484
0488	0493	0494	0495	0498	0502	0505	0509	0513	0514
0515	0516	0517	0518	0519	0520	0521	0522	0524	0526
0529	0532	0535	0538	0541	0544	0550	0552	0555	0557
0560	0563	0564	0567	0570	0576	0581	0583	0586	0591
0593	0595	0597	0599	0602	0604	0606	0614	0620	0631
0633	0642	0652	0663	0664	0666	0668	0674	0675	0677
0680	0684	0687	0692	0699	0715	0725	0731	0746	0761
0771	0777	0781	0787	0792	0796	0802	0806	0808	0810
0811	0815	0819	0823	0827	0835	0841	0848	0852	0855
0864	0878	0887	0891	0901	0908	0915	0920	0926	0935
0940	0941	0954	0956	0959	0961	0963	0968	0970	0974
0983	0987	0991	0993	0995	1004	1006	1008	1012	1015
1017	1021	1023	1024	1027	1042	1045	1060	1080	1094
1133	1144	1153	1161	1174	1185	1188	1195	1199	1202
1204	1207	1214	1218	1219	1227	1233	1238	1241	1250
1260	1273	1276	1293	1299	1333	1356	1366	1399	1403
1408	1412	1417	1421	1425	1428	1431	1433	1436	1438
1442	1447	1451	1455	1458	1462	1465	1472	1476	1481
1487	1492	1496	1499	1503	1511	1517	1519	1521	1525
1531	1536	1539	1554	1572	1587	1596	1602	1607	1611
1614	1619	1623	1629	1632	1636	1638	1642	1651	1658
1666	1670	1675	1681	1690	1691	1695	1701	1704	1707
1711	1713	1716	1720	1724	1726	1734	1748	1763	1772
1776	1783	1788	1794	1798	1807	1811	1817	1836	1843
1848	1850	1859	1869	1878	1881	1887	1905	1921	1926
1928	1932	1941	1946	1950	1953	1956	1960	1966	1967
1970	1972	1974	1977	1978	1984	1988	1994	1995	2005
2021	2041	2045	2055	2060	2064	2067	6076	2080	2105
2107	2110	2115	2117	2190	2208	2211	2216	2220	2226
2234	2247	2255	2261	2267	2270	2290	2303	2305	2309
2315	2320	2323	2324	2330	2337	2342	2351	2357	2363
2381	2410	2462	2472	2476	2480	2488	2521	2530	2536
2543	2549	2553	2563	2590	2599	2610	2653	2682	2687
2707	2713	2726	2730	2736	2741	2756	2759	2767	2793
2799	2809	2823	2862	2868	2882	2895	2903	2912	2916
2919	2927	2933	2936	2957	2965	2971			

