



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-058

Issued: 26 April 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 – Tail Cone Balancer Fitting Anchor Nuts and Fasteners – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification (mod) 110319 or mod 110348 have been embodied in production.

Definitions:

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

Aeroplane date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title, as referenced in Airbus documentation at the time of first delivery to an operator.

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-53-P024.

Reason:

Following a complete review of the Airbus A350 structure design principles database for type definition, it was revealed that the balancer fitting part, installed on the tail cone, lower section of



Frame (FR) 103, has several corrosion resistant stainless steel nuts installed on elementary aluminium parts, which does not meet the requirements for protection against corrosion.

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

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus developed production mod 110319 to improve protection against corrosion, and issued the SB to provide modification instructions for in-service pre-mod aeroplanes.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a modification, adding new additional overcoat sealant and elastic varnish on the affected nuts and fastener heads.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Corrective Action(s):

Within 72 months after the aeroplane date of manufacture, apply additional corrosion protection to the fastener heads and the anchor nuts of the balancer fitting at FR103, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-53-P024 original issue, dated 03 April 2018.

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 24 May 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.

