



## Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.: 18-143**

**Issued: 24 October 2018**

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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:**

IPECO HOLDING Ltd

**Type/Model designation(s):**

Type 3A063 flight crew seats

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

**ETSO Authorisations:** Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of the United Kingdom (UK) Approval numbers, E12862, E12863 and E13323.

**Foreign AD:** Not applicable

**Supersedure:** This AD supersedes EASA AD 2016-0256 dated 16 December 2016.

### ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Pilot and Co-pilot Seats – Modification / Inspection

**Manufacturer(s):**

IPECO Holding Ltd, previously IPECO Europe Ltd

**Applicability:**

Type 3A063 pilot and co-pilot seats, identified by Part Number (P/N) in Appendix 1 of this AD, all serial numbers.

These seats are known to be installed on, but not limited to, ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional ATR 42 and ATR 72 aeroplanes.

**Definitions:**

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

**The applicable modification SB:** IPECO Service Bulletin (SB) 063-25-08, SB 063-25-09 and SB 063-25-10, as applicable.

**The inspection SB:** IPECO SB 063-25-14.



**Pre-mod seat:** A seat having a P/N identified as “old P/N” in Appendix 1 of this AD.

**Affected seat:** A seat having a P/N identified in Appendix 1 of this AD (both “old P/N” and “new P/N”).

**Affected spring:** Track lock spring having P/N 1A527-0016 or P/N 3A063-0559.

**Groups:** Group 1 are aeroplanes that, on 30 December 2016 [the effective date of EASA AD 2016-0256] had a pre-mod seat installed. Group 2 are aeroplanes that, on 30 December 2016, did not have a pre-mod seat installed.

#### Reason:

Occurrences have been reported of pilot/co-pilot unexpected rearward movement during take-off and landing. Investigations determined that horizontal guide block wear, presence of burrs on horizontal centre track and horizontal track lock system weakness (spring tension too low) were causes which contributed to the seat not being correctly locked.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to further cases of unwanted flight crew seat movement, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, IPECO improved the quality control on the final assembly line and issued the applicable modification SB, providing modification instructions, and EASA issued AD 2016-0256, requiring modification of pre-mod seats and subsequent re-identification with a new P/N.

Since that AD was issued, occurrences of track lock spring failures have been reported on affected seats (including seats already modified as required by EASA AD 2016-0256). Consequently, IPECO published the inspection SB, providing applicable instructions to inspect and replace, if necessary, any affected spring of each affected seat.

For the reasons described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2016-0256, which is superseded, and requires repetitive inspection of seats and, depending on findings, replacement of affected springs and reporting to IPECO.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

#### Restatement of the requirements of EASA AD 2016-0256:

##### Inspection(s):

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 2 years after 30 December 2016 [the effective date of EASA AD 2016-0256], modify and re-identify each pre-mod seat in accordance with the instructions of the applicable modification SB (see Note 1 of this AD).

Note 1: For affected ATR aeroplanes, ATR issued SB ATR42-25-0191 and SB ATR72-25-1157, referencing the applicable modification SB, and providing instructions to modify an aeroplane by installation of modified (new, or re-identified) seats.



**Parts Installation:**

(2) Do not install (see Note 2 of this AD) a pre-mod seat on any aeroplane, as required by paragraph (2.1) or (2.2) of this AD, as applicable.

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

(2.2) Group 2 aeroplanes: From 30 December 2016 [the effective date of EASA AD 2016-0256].

Note 2: For the purpose of this AD, removal of a seat from an aeroplane and subsequent re-installation of that seat on that same aeroplane is not “installation” as specified in paragraphs (2) and (7) of this AD.

**New requirements of this AD:****Inspections:**

(3) Within 750 flight hours (FH) after the effective date of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 750 FH, inspect any affected spring of each affected seat in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB.

**Corrective action:**

(4) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any damage or incorrect installation of an affected spring (as identified in the inspection SB) is found, before next flight replace both springs in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB.

**Credit:**

(5) For affected seats installed on ATR aeroplanes: If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any damage or incorrect installation of only one affected spring (as identified in the inspection SB) is found on the pilot or co-pilot seat, it is allowed to defer accomplishment of the corrective actions as required by paragraph (4) of this AD for that seat by up to 10 calendar days, provided a copy of the ATR Operations Engineering Bulletin (OEB) “Untimely Pilot Seat Unlocking” is included in the applicable Aircraft Flight Manual, pilots are informed, and the aeroplane is operated in accordance with the instructions of that OEB.

**Terminating action:**

(6) None.

**Parts Installation:**

(7) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install (see Note 2 of this AD) an affected seat on an aeroplane provided, before installation, that seat passed an inspection (no defect found), in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB and that, following installation, it is inspected as required by paragraph (3) this AD.

(8) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected spring on a seat installed on an aeroplane provided that, before next flight after installation, that spring passes an inspection (no defect found), in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB and that, thereafter, it is inspected as required by paragraph (3) this AD.



**Reporting:**

- (9) Within 30 days after the initial inspection of an affected spring as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, report inspection results (including no finding) to IPECO. This can be done in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB.
- (10) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any damage or incorrect installation of an affected spring (as identified in the inspection SB) is found, unless already done as required by paragraph (9) of this AD, within 30 days after that inspection, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, report inspection findings to IPECO. This can be done in accordance with the instructions of the inspection SB.

**Ref. Publications:**

IPECO SB 063-25-08 original issue dated 31 May 2016.

IPECO SB 063-25-09 original issue dated 31 May 2016.

IPECO SB 063-25-10 original issue dated 31 May 2016.

IPECO SB 063-25-14 original issue dated 14 August 2018.

ATR OEB “Untimely Pilot Seat Unlocking” available inside ATR FCOM and submitted with AOM: 42/72/2018/04 issue 1 dated 13 September 2018.

ATR SB ATR42-25-0191 original issue dated 04 July 2016, or revision 01 dated 20 July 2016.

ATR SB ATR72-25-1157 original issue dated 04 July 2016, or revision 01 dated 20 July 2016.

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 07 November 2018.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu).
3. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this PAD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this PAD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: IPECO Holdings Limited,  
Aviation Way, Southend On Sea, Essex SS2 6UN, United Kingdom,  
Telephone: +44 1702 209211, Fax: +44 1702 540782,  
E-mail: [Customersupport@ipeco.com](mailto:Customersupport@ipeco.com).



## Appendix 1 – Affected Seat P/N

This Appendix list all the affected seat P/N, including pre-mod seats P/N (column “Old P/N”) and the P/N after the modification required by paragraph (1) of this AD (column “New P/N”).

Table 1 – IPECO SB 063-25-08 and SB 063-25-14

Pilot Seats		Co-pilot Seats	
Old P/N	New P/N	Old P/N	New P/N
3A063-0033-01-1	3A063-0033-01-1Z	3A063-0034-01-1	3A063-0034-01-1Z
3A063-0033-01-2	3A063-0033-01-2Z	3A063-0034-01-2	3A063-0034-01-2Z
3A063-0033-01-3	3A063-0033-01-3Z	3A063-0034-01-3	3A063-0034-01-3Z
3A063-0033-01-4	3A063-0033-01-4Z	3A063-0034-01-4	3A063-0034-01-4Z
3A063-0033-01-5	3A063-0033-01-6	3A063-0034-01-5	3A063-0034-01-6
3A063-0033-02-1	3A063-0033-02-1Z	3A063-0034-02-1	3A063-0034-02-1Z
3A063-0033-02-2	3A063-0033-02-2Z	3A063-0034-02-2	3A063-0034-02-2Z
3A063-0033-02-3	3A063-0033-02-3Z	3A063-0034-02-3	3A063-0034-02-3Z
3A063-0033-02-4	3A063-0033-02-4Z	3A063-0034-02-4	3A063-0034-02-4Z
3A063-0033-02-5	3A063-0033-02-6	3A063-0034-02-5	3A063-0034-02-6



Table 2 – IPECO SB 063-25-09 and SB 063-25-14

Pilot Seats		Co-pilot Seats	
Old P/N	New P/N	Old P/N	New P/N
3A063-0035-01-1	3A063-0035-01-1Z	3A063-0036-01-1	3A063-0036-01-1Z
3A063-0035-01-2	3A063-0035-01-2Z	3A063-0036-01-2	3A063-0036-01-2Z
3A063-0035-01-3	3A063-0035-01-3Z	3A063-0036-01-3	3A063-0036-01-3Z
3A063-0035-01-4	3A063-0035-01-4Z	3A063-0036-01-4	3A063-0036-01-4Z
3A063-0035-01-5	3A063-0035-01-6	3A063-0036-01-5	3A063-0036-01-6
3A063-0035-02-1	3A063-0035-02-1Z	3A063-0036-02-1	3A063-0036-02-1Z
3A063-0035-02-2	3A063-0035-02-2Z	3A063-0036-02-2	3A063-0036-02-2Z
3A063-0035-02-3	3A063-0035-02-3Z	3A063-0036-02-3	3A063-0036-02-3Z
3A063-0035-02-4	3A063-0035-02-4Z	3A063-0036-02-4	3A063-0036-02-4Z
3A063-0035-02-5	3A063-0035-02-6	3A063-0036-02-5	3A063-0036-02-6
3A063-0035-03-1	3A063-0035-03-1Z	3A063-0036-03-1	3A063-0036-03-1Z
3A063-0035-03-2	3A063-0035-03-2Z	3A063-0036-03-2	3A063-0036-03-2Z
3A063-0035-03-3	3A063-0035-03-3Z	3A063-0036-03-3	3A063-0036-03-3Z
3A063-0035-03-4	3A063-0035-03-4Z	3A063-0036-03-4	3A063-0036-03-4Z
3A063-0035-03-5	3A063-0035-03-6	3A063-0036-03-5	3A063-0036-03-6
3A063-0035-04-1	3A063-0035-04-1Z	3A063-0036-04-1	3A063-0036-04-1Z
3A063-0035-04-2	3A063-0035-04-2Z	3A063-0036-04-2	3A063-0036-04-2Z
3A063-0035-04-3	3A063-0035-04-3Z	3A063-0036-04-3	3A063-0036-04-3Z
3A063-0035-04-4	3A063-0035-04-4Z	3A063-0036-04-4	3A063-0036-04-4Z
3A063-0035-04-5	3A063-0035-04-6	3A063-0036-04-5	3A063-0036-04-6
3A063-0035-05-1	3A063-0035-05-1Z	3A063-0036-05-1	3A063-0036-05-1Z
3A063-0035-05-2	3A063-0035-05-2Z	3A063-0036-05-2	3A063-0036-05-2Z
3A063-0035-05-3	3A063-0035-05-3Z	3A063-0036-05-3	3A063-0036-05-3Z
3A063-0035-05-4	3A063-0035-05-4Z	3A063-0036-05-4	3A063-0036-05-4Z
3A063-0035-05-5	3A063-0035-05-6	3A063-0036-05-5	3A063-0036-05-6
3A063-0037-01-1	3A063-0037-01-1Z	3A063-0038-01-1	3A063-0038-01-1Z
3A063-0037-01-2	3A063-0037-01-2Z	3A063-0038-01-2	3A063-0038-01-2Z
3A063-0037-01-3	3A063-0037-01-3Z	3A063-0038-01-3	3A063-0038-01-3Z
3A063-0037-01-4	3A063-0037-01-4Z	3A063-0038-01-4	3A063-0038-01-4Z
3A063-0037-01-5	3A063-0037-01-6	3A063-0038-01-5	3A063-0038-01-6



Table 3 – IPECO SB 063-25-10 and SB 063-25-14

Pilot Seats		Co-pilot Seats	
Old P/N	New P/N	Old P/N	New P/N
3A063-0079-01-1	3A063-0079-01-1Z	3A063-0080-01-1	3A063-0080-01-1Z
3A063-0079-01-2	3A063-0079-01-2Z	3A063-0080-01-2	3A063-0080-01-2Z
3A063-0079-01-3	3A063-0079-01-3Z	3A063-0080-01-3	3A063-0080-01-3Z
3A063-0079-01-4	3A063-0079-01-5	3A063-0080-01-4	3A063-0080-01-5
3A063-0079-02-1	3A063-0079-02-1Z	3A063-0080-02-1	3A063-0080-02-1Z
3A063-0079-02-2	3A063-0079-02-2Z	3A063-0080-02-2	3A063-0080-02-2Z
3A063-0079-02-3	3A063-0079-02-3Z	3A063-0080-02-3	3A063-0080-02-3Z
3A063-0079-02-4	3A063-0079-02-5	3A063-0080-02-4	3A063-0080-02-5
3A063-0079-03-1	3A063-0079-03-1Z	3A063-0080-03-1	3A063-0080-03-1Z
3A063-0079-03-2	3A063-0079-03-2Z	3A063-0080-03-2	3A063-0080-03-2Z
3A063-0079-03-3	3A063-0079-03-3Z	3A063-0080-03-3	3A063-0080-03-3Z
3A063-0079-03-4	3A063-0079-03-5	3A063-0080-03-4	3A063-0080-03-5

Table 4 – IPECO SB 063-25-14

Pilot Seats		Co-pilot Seats	
Old P/N	New P/N	Old P/N	New P/N
Not Applicable (N/A)	3A063-0079-21-6	N/A	3A063-0080-21-06
N/A	3A063-0099-01-1	N/A	3A063-0100-01-1

