



# Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.: 18-174**

**Issued: 12 December 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:**

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:** This AD supersedes EASA AD 2017-0183 dated 20 September 2017.

## ATA 54 – Nacelles / Pylons – Inboard and Outboard Pylon Drain System – Inspection

**Manufacturer(s):**

Airbus

**Applicability:**

Airbus A380-841 and A380-842 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

**Definitions:**

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

**The SB:** Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A380-54-8073.

**Reason:**

Flame and smoke were detected after engine shut down at the lower side of a pylon #1 in close vicinity of the engine nozzle exhaust. Subsequent investigation determined that the sealant of pylon zone A was damaged and the forward pylon drain line was confirmed clogged at the level of the engine to pylon interface within the engine area.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, in case of leakage from engine hydraulic line(s), could lead to accumulation of hydraulic fluid and damage to the seal of the pylon fuel double wall pipe,



possibly resulting in fuel flow onto hot engine parts and an on ground fire with consequent damage to the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued AOT A54R008-17 providing instructions to inspect and check the pylons and engine drain systems. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2017-0183 to require a one-time detailed inspection (DET) and functional check of each pylon and the related engine drain system, and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

Since that AD was issued, pending development of a new drain system, expected to reduce the risk of pylon drain pipe clogging, Airbus issued the SB providing instructions for a DET of the drain line (or flexible hose) of each engine.

For the reasons described above, this AD supersedes EASA AD 2017-0183 and requires a one-time DET of each engine drain system flexible hose, and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

This AD is considered to be an interim action and further AD action may follow.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

#### **Inspection(s):**

- (1) Within 2 months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish a DET of each engine drain system flexible hose in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

#### **Corrective Action(s):**

- (2) If, during the DET as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, any trace of black residue is detected, before next flight, accomplish the applicable follow-up action(s) and corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

#### **Ref. Publications:**

Airbus SB A380-54-8073 original issue dated 26 November 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 09 January 2019.
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: Airbus – EIANA (Airworthiness Office), Telephone: +33 562 110 253, Fax: +33 562 110 307, E-mail: [account.airworth-A380@airbus.com](mailto:account.airworth-A380@airbus.com).

