



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 18-181

Issued: 18 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):

A320 and 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 54 – Nacelles / Pylons – Pylon Block Seals – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

A320-251N, A321-253N aeroplanes, manufacturer serial numbers 7140, 7141, 7147, 7150, 7162, 7175, 7185, 7186, 7195, 7236, 7249, 7277, 7283, 7290, 7291, 7309, 7321, 7323, 7341, 7352, 7354, 7359, 7367, 7380, 7386, 7387, 7399, 7409, 7417, 7429, 7459, 7466, 7472, 7475, 7484, 7486, 7489, 7494, 7499, 7505, 7508, 7514, 7521, 7523, 7526, 7535, 7538, 7555, 7559, 7560, 7565, 7568, 7576, 7581, 7587, 7589, 7591 and 7600.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A320-54-1040.

Block seal: Pylon block seal having part number (P/N) D0003167600000 or P/N D0003167600100.



Reason:

Cracks have been reported on pylon block seals of aeroplanes in final assembly line. Investigation results identified a manufacturing issue, leading to lack of thickness of seal on the engines and, eventually, cracks on pylon block seals. Affected aeroplanes have also been identified.

This condition, if not corrected, could reduce the firewall integrity function between the pylon and the nacelle.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB, providing replacement instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of pylon block seals.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Replacement:

- (1) Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD, replace each block seal with new one in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Credit:

- (2) Replacement of a block seal of an aeroplane, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of the applicable Airplane Maintenance Manual, is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A320-54-1040 original issue dated 20 April 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 15 January 2019.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: 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 – Airworthiness Office – EIAS; Fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com.

