



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 19-108

Issued: 17 June 2019

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):

A318, A319 and A320 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 – Fuel Level Sensor Support Bracket – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A318-112, A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A320-211, A320-212, A320-214, A320-215, A320-216, A320-231, A320-232, A320-233, A320-251N, and A320-271N aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) except those having Airbus modification (mod) 158133 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.

Groups:

Group 1 aeroplanes are those having Airbus mod 160029 embodied in production.



Group 2 aeroplanes are those having embodied Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A320-28-1216 original issue and SB A320-57-1193.

Group 3 aeroplanes are those having embodied Airbus SB A320-28-1216 original issue and not having embodied Airbus SB A320-57-1193.

Reason:

Inspection in production lines of aeroplanes having embodied Airbus mod 160001 (modified wing provisions for sharklet installation) identified marginal clearance between the fuel sensor cover installed by Airbus mod 160029 (wiring provisions) on rib 24 and the crown of stringer 15 on both left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) wings. The same condition could exist on aeroplanes in service that have been modified with Airbus SB A320-28-1216 original issue combined with sharklet retrofit Airbus SB A320-57-1193. A possible contact between the shield and the stringer, and/or the possible motion between the stringer and the shield can make the gap more susceptible to sparking in case of lightning strike.

This condition, if not corrected, could create a source of ignition in a fuel tank vapour space, possibly resulting in a fire or explosion and consequent loss of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus issued SB A320-28-1238 and SB A320-28-1239, and revised SB A320-28-1216, providing instructions to replace fuel level sensor brackets with different parts, originally designed for installation on A321 aeroplanes, which provide sufficient clearance between the cover and the wing structure.

For the reason described above, this AD requires replacing the affected fuel level sensor brackets, and prohibits their (re-)installation.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 144 months after the aeroplane date of manufacture, replace each fuel level sensor bracket, having a part number (P/N) identified as “old” in Table 1 of this AD, with a corresponding bracket having a P/N identified as “new” in Table 1 of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-28-1238 Revision (Rev.) 01, or SB A320-28-1239 Rev. 01, as applicable.

Table 1: Fuel Level Sensor Brackets P/N

OLD P/N	NEW P/N
D2845002400000	D2845024000000
D2845002900000	D2845024100000

- (2) For Group 2 aeroplanes: Within 72 months after the effective date of this AD, replace each fuel level sensor bracket, having a P/N identified as “old” in Table 1 of this AD, with a corresponding bracket having a P/N identified as “new” in Table 1 of this AD, in accordance with additional work instructions of Airbus SB A320-28-1216 Rev. 01.



- (3) For Group 3 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, before embodiment of Airbus SB A320-57-1193, contact Airbus for instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

Parts Installation:

- (4) From the effective date of this AD, do not install a fuel level sensor bracket having a P/N identified as “old” in Table 1 of this AD on any aeroplane at the location defined in Airbus SB A320-28-1238 and A320-28-1239.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A320-28-1216 Revision 01 dated 19 June 2018.

Airbus SB A320-28-1238 Revision 01 dated 15 September 2017.

Airbus SB A320-28-1239 Revision 01 dated 15 September 2017.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-referenced documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:

1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 15 July 2019.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness 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.

