

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2019-0236

Issued: 23 September 2019

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) 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.

This AD is issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

ATR-GIE AVIONS de TRANSPORT RÉGIONAL

Type/Model designation(s):

ATR 72 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 07 October 2019

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.084

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 32 – Landing Gear – Main Landing Gear Bush – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

ATR-GIE Avions de Transport Régional, formerly EADS ATR - Alenia, Aerospatiale Matra ATR - ALENIA, Aerospatiale - Alenia, Aerospatiale – Aeritalia

Applicability:

ATR 72-101, ATR 72-102, ATR 72-201, ATR 72-202, ATR 72-211, ATR 72-212 and ATR 72-212A aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN).

Definitions:

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

The AOM: ATR Airworthiness Operator Message (AOM) 2019/12 Issue 2.

Groups: Group 1 are ATR 72 aeroplanes, all MSN, except MSN 1433, 1437, 1456, 1463, 1481, 1485, 1493, 1495, 1506, 1511, 1512, 1514, 1515, 1516, 1517, 1518, 1520 and subsequent, provided it has been determined that both main landing gears (MLG) have never been removed from the aeroplane since ATR date of manufacture. Group 2 are ATR 72 aeroplanes, all MSN.

ATR date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title (ownership) of the aeroplane upon delivery by ATR to the first operator.

Serviceable MLG:

Scenario 1: Any MLG on which the bushing, Part Number (P/N) D61002, was found wrongly installed and which was corrected in accordance with the instructions of the AOM, and has accumulated less than 12 months or 3 000 flight cycles (FC) since first re-installation after correction; or

Scenario 2: An MLG on which the bushing P/N D61002 was found correctly installed in accordance with the instructions of the AOM.

Reason:

Several occurrences were reported of finding MLG bush P/N D61002 incorrectly installed with an inverted position on ATR 72 in-service aeroplanes. Such inverted installation of the MLG bush can occur during any maintenance action of removal and (re)installation of the MLG. Subsequent investigation identified this wrong MLG bush installation could result in significant play between the MLG and the aeroplane structure lugs.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to MLG structural failure and subsequent collapse of the MLG, possibly resulting in damage to the aeroplane and injury to occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, ATR issued the AOM to provide inspection instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the left-hand (LH) and right-hand (RH) MLG, 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) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 2 months or 200 FC, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect the bush P/N D61002 installation of LH and RH MLG in accordance with the instructions of the AOM.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the bush is found in wrong position as defined in the AOM, before next flight, remove the affected MLG, and replace it with a serviceable MLG, as defined in this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the AOM.

Parts Installation / Life Limit Implementation:

- (3) For serviceable MLG, Scenario 1: Within 12 months or 3 000 FC, whichever occurs first since (re-)installation on an aeroplane as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, replace it with a serviceable MLG, as defined in this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the AOM.
- (4) For Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, each MLG removal and installation must be accomplished in accordance with the instructions of the AOM.



Credit:

- (5) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Inspection and, depending on findings, correction of an aeroplane, accomplished before the effective date of this AD in accordance with the instructions of ATR AOM 2019/12 at Issue 1, is an acceptable method to comply with the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.

Reporting:

- (6) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 30 days after accomplishment of the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, or within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, report the inspection results (including no findings) to ATR. Using the instructions of the AOM is an acceptable method to comply with this reporting requirement.

Ref. Publications:

ATR AOM 2019/12 Issue 1 dated 30 July 2019, or Issue 2 dated 06 August 2019.

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

Remarks:

1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.
2. This AD was posted on 13 August 2019 as PAD 19-155 for consultation until 27 August 2019. The Comment Response Document can be found in the [EASA Safety Publications Tool](#), in the compressed (zipped) file attached to the record for this AD.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.
4. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: ATR - GIE Avions de Transport Régional, Continued Airworthiness Service, Telephone: +33 (0)5 62 21 62 21, Fax: +33 (0) 5 62 21 67 18; E-mail: continued.airworthiness@atr-aircraft.com.

