



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-004

Issued: 14 January 2020

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):

A350 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 78 – Exhaust – Thrust Reverser Hinge Nut – Inspection / Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 and A350-1041 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definition applies:

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-78-P013.

Affected part: Nuts installed on left hand (LH) and right hand (RH) Thrust Reverser (T/R) hinge positions 2, 3 and 4 of both engines.

Reason:

An occurrence was reported where, when opening the # 2 engine T/R, a nut of the RH T/R hinge located at position 4 was found detached. Investigation identified that some nuts may have been installed with non-compliant locking features, or with locking features that could degrade quicker than anticipated. A similar nut installation on T/R hinge positions 2 and 3 can be affected by the same issue.



This condition, if not detected and corrected, can lead to in-flight loss of a T/R, possibly resulting in damage to the aeroplane and/or injury to persons on the ground.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB to provide instructions to inspect and replace the affected parts.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of the affected parts and, depending on findings, replacement with a new part.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection(s):

- (1) Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, inspect the affected parts, as defined in this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Replacement:

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any affected part is found missing at any location, before next flight, install new nuts and washers and apply a torque stripe at that location in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
- (3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the affected parts are found installed, before next flight, replace all affected parts with new nuts and apply a torque stripe at each location in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Reporting:

- (4) Within 30 days after the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, report the results (including no findings) to Airbus. This can be accomplished in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-78-P013 original issue dated 13 December 2019.

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 11 February 2020.
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, E-mail: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

