



# Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

**PAD No.:** 20-021

**Issued:** 28 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 – Pressure Relief Latch Access Doors – Modification

**Manufacturer(s):**

Airbus

**Applicability:**

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

**Definitions:**

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

**The SB:** Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-78-P009.

**Affected TR / LAD:** Thrust reversers (TR) and latch access doors (LAD), having a Part Number (P/N) as listed in Table 1 of this AD.

**Groups:** Group 1 aeroplanes are those that have an affected part installed. Group 2 aeroplanes are those that do not have an affected part installed. An A350 aeroplane that has embodied Airbus modification (mod) 111025 in production is a Group 2 aeroplane, provided that the aeroplane remains in that configuration.



**Reason:**

A fire test revealed that the latches for the forward and aft pressure relief doors could be opened during exposure to fire, leading to a breach in the engine core firewall. Further investigation results revealed that the spring rate of the washers could deviate under fire.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to an uncontained engine fire, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus developed production mod 111025 to improve thermal protection of the affected TR, and issued the SB to provide in-service modification instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires modification and re-identification of the affected TR / LAD.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Table 1 – Affected TR / LAD

	<b>P/N</b>
TR Right Hand (RH) Engine 1	351-3002-511, 351-3002-513, 351-3002-515, 351-3002-517 and 351-3002-519
TR RH Engine 2	351-3004-507, 351-3004-509, 351-3004-511, 351-3004-513 and 351-3004-515
TR Left Hand (LH) Engine 1	351-3001-511, 351-3001-513, 351-3001-515, 351-3001-517 and 351-3001-519
TR LH Engine 2	351-3003-507, 351-3003-509, 351-3003-511, 351-3003-513 and 351-3003-515
Forward LAD	351-3531-517 and 351-3531-521
Aft LAD	351-3536-515 and 351-3536-519

**Modification:**

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 4 months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish concurrently the actions as required by paragraphs (1.1), (1.2) and (1.3) of this AD, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

(1.1) Modify each affected LAD.

(1.2) Replace the lower aft thermal blanket on each affected TR.

(1.3) Re-identify the P/N of the affected TR / LAD.



**Parts Installation:**

(2) Do not install an affected TR / LAD on any aeroplane, as required by paragraph (2.1) or (2.2) of this AD, as applicable.

(2.1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: After modification of the aeroplane as required by paragraph (1).

(2.2) For Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD.

**Ref. Publications:**

Airbus SB A350-78-P009 original issue dated 08 June 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 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](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 AD, please contact: AIRBUS XWB, E-mail: [continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com](mailto:continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com).

