

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2020-0123

Issued: 29 May 2020

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:

AIRBUS

Type/Model designation(s):

A350 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 12 June 2020

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 57 – Wings – Centre Wing Box Fasteners – Replacement
Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification 109799 was embodied in production.

Definitions:

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

Aeroplane date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title (ownership) at the time of first delivery to an operator, which is referenced in Airbus documentation.

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-57-P036.

Affected part: Fasteners, installed on left-hand and right-hand centre wing box (CWB), as specified in the SB.

Reason:

During flight and fatigue test, it was detected that some fasteners rotate inside their fastener holes of the CWB. Further investigation identified insufficient friction for the application.

This condition, if not corrected, can lead to a crack of the fastener head sealant cover followed by fuel vapour leakage inside the cabin, possibly resulting in injury to aeroplane occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB to provide instructions to replace the affected parts by fasteners made from material that has improved friction efficiency.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires replacement of the affected parts.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Modification:

Before exceeding 6 years since aeroplane date of manufacture, replace the affected parts in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-57-P036 original issue dated 17 January 2020.

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 26 February 2020 as PAD 20-044 for consultation until 25 March 2020. 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 Airbus, E-mail: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

