



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-044

Issued: 26 February 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 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. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 25 March 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.

