



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-102

Issued: 01 July 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):

A330 and A340 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.004, EASA.A.015

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 27 – Flight Controls – Trimmable Horizontal Stabilizer Actuator Lower Attachment Parts – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A330-201, A330-202, A330-203, A330-223, A330-243, A330-301, A330-302, A330-303, A330-321, A330-322, A330-323, A330-341, A330-342, A330-343, A330-743L, A330-841 and A330-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) up to MSN 1965 inclusive, except those on which Airbus Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) task 27-44-00-210-801-A (Revision of July 2019 or later) or AMM task 27-44-51-400-801-A (Revision of July 2019 or later) has been accomplished; and

Airbus A340-211, A340-212, A340-213, A340-311, A340-312 and A340-313 aeroplanes, all MSN, except those on which Airbus AMM task 27-44-00-210-801-A (Revision of July 2019 or later) or AMM task 27-44-51-400-801-A (Revision of July 2019 or later) has been accomplished.

Definitions:

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



The AOT: Airbus Alert Operators Transmission (AOT) A27L014-20.

Reason:

Occurrences were reported of incorrect installation of Trimmable Horizontal Stabilizer Actuator (THSA) lower attachment parts, as listed in the AOT. The investigation concluded that of this incorrect installation was due to human errors during production and maintenance.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to the loss of THSA primary load path and consequent activation of THSA secondary load path (which is designed to withstand full loads only for a limited period of time), possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus amended the applicable production and maintenance procedures. In addition, Airbus published the AOT, as defined in this AD, to provide inspection instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time detailed inspection (DET) of the THSA lower attachment parts to verify proper installation and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s). This AD also prohibits the use of certain AMM task instructions.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 1 000 flight hours after the effective date of this AD, accomplish a DET of the THSA lower attachment parts in accordance with the instructions of the AOT.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the DET as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any discrepancies are identified, before next flight, accomplish the applicable corrective action(s) in accordance with the instructions of the AOT.

Use of AMM Task:

- (3) From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to accomplish on any aeroplane Airbus AMM task 27-44-00-210-801-A or AMM task 27-44-51-400-801-A, as applicable, provided the instructions used are from an AMM Revision dated July 2019 or later.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus AOT A27L014-20 original issue dated 26 May 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 15 July 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 – IIAL (Airworthiness Office), E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.

