



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 20-125

Issued: 26 August 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 aeroplanes

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

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.004

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Wing-to-Fuselage Fillet Fairing Adjustable Rods – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A330-243, A330-343 and A330-941 aeroplanes, manufacturer serial number (MSN) 1889, 1891, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1899.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A330-53-3297.

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

Affected parts: Fillet fairing adjustable rods.

Serviceable part: An affected part that is new (never installed).



Reason:

During a quality inspection on the final assembly line, at the wing/fuselage fillet interface, evidence of black stains and white oxidation was seen on several areas of the adjustable rods. These rods are used to adjust and close the fillet fairing panels which provide the aerodynamic fairing between the wing and the fuselage. Additionally, it was determined that the black stains and oxidation are due to surface corrosion, which could continue to develop into the structure of the rods in the presence of natural air humidity.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to rod failure(s), and consequent fillet fairing detachment, possibly resulting in damage to the tailplane and consequent reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus identified the MSN that may be affected by this issue and published the SB with inspection and replacement instructions.

For the reason described above, this AD requires replacement of each affected part.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Replacement:

Before exceeding 24 months since Airbus date of manufacture, replace each affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A330-53-3297 original issue dated 21 July 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 23 September 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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this PAD applies, if the same unsafe condition can exist or may develop on an aircraft with those components installed. Such components may be installed under an FAA Parts Manufacturer Approval (PMA), Supplemental Type Certificate (STC) or other modification.
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.

