



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 21-061

Issued: 29 April 2021

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 27 – Flight Controls – Slat Geared Rotary Actuators – Drainage / Cleaning

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 and A350-1041 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-27-P054.

Affected part: Slat geared rotary actuators (SGRA), having Part Number 4775A000-02, if installed on slat 5 track 12, Functional Item Number (FIN) 5045CW and FIN 5145CW, left-hand and right-hand sides, respectively.

Reason:

From early 2019, an increasing number of slat transmission jam occurrences have been reported, caused by a frozen SGRA at slat 5 track 12. Further investigation results revealed that these SGRA



jams occur when water, accumulated within the SGRA, freezes due to low temperature during cruise and insufficient water drainage.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to a slat system jamming, possibly resulting in reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB to provide inspection and cleaning instructions of the affected parts.

For the reason described above, this AD requires repetitive water drainage and plug cleaning of the affected parts.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Drainage / Cleaning:

- (1) Within 500 flight cycles (FC) or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, and, thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 500 FC or 6 months, whichever occurs first, accomplish water drainage and plug cleaning of the affected parts in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Terminating Action:

- (2) None.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-27-P054 original issue dated 30 March 2021.

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 13 May 2021.
2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the EASA Safety 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 A350 XWB, E-mail: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

