

Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2022-0179

Issued: 26 August 2022

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, or Annex Vb Part ML.A.301, as applicable, 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 Annex Vb Part ML.A.303, as applicable] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS S.A.S.

Type/Model designation(s):

A330 and A340 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 09 September 2022

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

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2021-0136 dated 04 June 2021.

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Doghouse Placard – Replacement
Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

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, A330-841 and A330-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN); and

Airbus A340-211, A340-212, A340-213, A340-311, A340-312, A340-313, A340-541, A340-542, A340-642 and A340-643 aeroplanes, all MSN.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A330-25-3776, SB A340-25-4382 and SB A340-25-5244, as applicable.

The VSB1: Bucher Vendor SB (VSB) 204XXX0-25-002 and Diehl VSB A4-252-25-012, both at original issue, as applicable.

The VSB2: Diehl VSB A4-252-25-012 Revision 01.

Affected part batch 1: Doghouses installed in the passenger cabin, as identified in the VSB1, except those modified in accordance with the instructions of the SB, the VSB1 or the VSB2, as applicable.

Affected part batch 2: Doghouses installed in the passenger cabin, as identified in the VSB2, except those modified in accordance with the instructions of the SB, the VSB1 or the VSB2, as applicable, and except those which are affected part batch 1.

Groups: Group 1 aeroplanes are those that have an affected part batch 1 installed.

Group 2 aeroplanes are those that have an affected part batch 2 installed

Group 3 aeroplanes are those that do not have an affected part (batch 1 or batch 2) installed.

Reason:

The door lock handling instruction of the affected part, which contains emergency equipment intended to minimise the effects of survivable accidents, is shown on a placard installed on the door close to the door lock. The current instruction given on this placard is unclear and incomplete, and could lead to incorrect operation of the doghouse door lock.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to failure of the latch, blocking the door in the closed position and preventing access to the emergency equipment inside the affected part, possibly resulting in injury to aeroplane occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, correct handling instructions were developed, and Airbus published the SB, to provide instructions for in-service placard replacement. Consequently, EASA issued AD 2021-0136, requiring installation of improved handling instruction placards on each affected part batch 1, and prohibiting installation of an affected part batch 1 on any aeroplane.

Since that AD was issued, it has been determined that additional parts have to be modified. Diehl issued the VSB2, and Airbus revised the SB accordingly.

For the reason described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2021-0136, which is superseded, and expands the list of affected parts to include affected part batch 2.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Placard Installation:

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 12 months after 18 June 2021 [the effective date of EASA AD 2021-0136], remove the placard and install an improved handling instructions placard on each affected part batch 1 in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
- (2) For Group 2 aeroplanes: Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, remove the placard and install an improved handling instructions placard on each affected part batch 2 in accordance with the instructions of the SB.



Part(s) Installation:

(3) Do not install an affected part (batch 1 or batch 2) on any aeroplane, as required by paragraph (3.1) or (3.2) of this AD, as applicable.

(3.1) For Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes: After modification of the aeroplane as required by paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, as applicable.

(3.2) For Group 3 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A330-25-3776 original issue dated 03 March 2021 and Revision 01 dated 31 March 2022.

Airbus SB A340-25-4382 original issue dated 04 March 2021.

Airbus SB A340-25-5244 original issue dated 04 March 2021.

Bucher VSB 204XXX0-25-002 original issue dated 27 January 2021 and Revision 01 dated 08 June 2021.

Diehl VSB A4-252-25-012 original issue dated 25 February 2021 and Revision 01 dated 01 April 2022.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned documents 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 14 July 2022 as PAD 22-095 for consultation until 11 August 2022. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety 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](#). This may include reporting on the same or similar components, other than those covered by the design to which this AD 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.
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS S.A.S. – 1IAL (Airworthiness Office),
E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.

