Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 24-008
Issued: 24 January 2024

Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2019/1139 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: DEUTSCHE AIRCRAFT GmbH
Type/Model designation(s): Dornier 328 aeroplanes

Effective Date: [TBD - standard: 14 days after AD issue date]
TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.096
Foreign AD: Not applicable
Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Passenger Seat Attachment Eyebolt – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):
Dornier Luftfahrt GmbH, Fairchild-Dornier GmbH, AvCraft Aerospace GmbH

Applicability:
Dornier 328-100 and Dornier 328-300 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

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

Affected part(s): Attachment eyebolt and spreader of Collins Aerospace (formerly Burns / BE Aerospace) JB6 Commuter Class left hand single passenger seats having Part Number (P/N) 87064XXX, 87189XXX or 87880XXX, and JB6 Commuter Class right hand double passenger seats having P/N 87065XXX, 87190XXX or 87881XX, where ‘X’ represents any number, all serial numbers.

Serviceable part(s): An affected part which is new or an affected part which, before installation, passed an inspection (no damage detected) in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.
The ASB: Deutsche Aircraft GmbH Alert Service Bulletin (ASB) ASB-328-25-048 or ASB-328J-25-024, as applicable.

Groups: Group 1 aeroplanes are those which are equipped with an affected part. Group 2 aeroplanes are those which are not equipped with an affected part.

Reason:
Occurrences of broken attachment eyebolt of Collins Aerospace JB6 Commuter Class passenger seat have been reported. The eyebolt is the connection between the reclining mechanism and the seat structure and connects the seat belt to the seat structure. Results of the preliminary investigation suggest that improper maintenance could have contributed to eyebolt damage.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could prevent the correct operation of the safety belts, possibly resulting in injuries to seat occupants.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Deutsche Aircraft GmbH issued the ASB, as defined in this AD, providing inspection instructions.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection of each affected part and, depending on findings, to contact Deutsche Aircraft GmbH and Collins Aerospace.

This AD is considered to be an interim action and further AD action may follow.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):
Required as indicated by this AD, unless the actions required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Inspection(s):
(1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 500 flight hours or 3 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD, inspect each affected part in accordance with the instructions of the ASB.

Corrective Action(s):
(2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, discrepancies are detected, as defined in the ASB, before next flight, contact Deutsche Aircraft GmbH and Collins Aerospace for approved repair instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly.

Acceptable Method:
(3) Replacement on an aeroplane of each affected part, on which discrepancies have been detected, with a serviceable part, or replacement of the seat(s) equipped with that affected part(s) with seat(s) equipped with serviceable part(s), in accordance with approved maintenance instructions is an acceptable method to comply with the requirements of paragraph (2) of this AD for that aeroplane.
Parts Installation:
(4) For Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to install an affected part, or a seat equipped with an affected part, on an aeroplane, provided that the part is a serviceable part, as defined in this AD.

Ref. Publications:
Deutsche Aircraft GmbH ASB ASB-328-25-048 original issue dated 08 December 2023.
The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.

Remarks:
1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 21 February 2024.
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:
Deutsche Aircraft GmbH, Oberpfaffenhofen Airport, D-82234 Wessling, Federal Republic of Germany; Telephone: +49 (0)8153 88111 6666; Fax: +49 (0)8153 88111 6565; E-mail: gsc.op@deutscheaircraft.com.
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