

Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 25-098

Issued: 27 June 2025

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.

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, 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 agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption]

Design Approval Holder's Name:

SAFRAN SEATS

Type/Model designation(s):

168 Series Third Occupant Seat

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

ETSO Approval: DGAC France QAC 124

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 25 – Equipment / Furnishings – Third Occupant Seat Bottom Equipped Screw – Replacement

Manufacturer(s):

SAFRAN Seats, formerly SICMA AERO SEAT, Zodiac Seats France

Applicability:

168 series third occupant seats, having Part Number (P/N) 16800-00-00, P/N 16800-01-00 or P/N 16800-01-01.

These seats are known to be installed on, but not limited to, Airbus A318, A319, A320 and A321 aeroplanes.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Safran Seats Service Bulletin (SB) 168-25-009 Revision 1.

Affected seat: 168 series third occupant seats not identified with Amdt D.

Serviceable seat: Any seat that is identified with Amdt D; or an affected seat having a serial number 17T0001 (inclusive) or above.

Affected part: Screw having P/N 168000VI-82.

Serviceable part: Screw having P/N F0516612.

Reason:

Occurrences of third occupant seat pan screws partly or fully unscrewed have been reported in service. One occurrence was reported where the seat broke at touchdown. Relevant investigations determined that the insert, intending to maintain the screw in the seat pan, can have a positioning tolerance not compatible with the screw length, not ensuring the locking function of the insert.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to an unscrewed screw, possibly resulting in injuries to the seat occupant.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Safran Seats issued the SB, providing instructions for replacement.

For the reason described above, this AD requires replacement of affected parts, and prohibits their (re)installation.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Modification:

- (1) For affected seats: Within 36 months after the effective date of this AD, replace the affected parts with serviceable parts in accordance with the instructions of the SB and, concurrently with that modification, re-identify that seat with Amdt D in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
After the modification, that seat is considered a serviceable seat.

Part(s) Installation:

- (2) From the effective date of this AD, do not install any affected part on a serviceable seat.

Ref. Publications:

Safran Seats SB 168-25-009 Revision 01 dated 13 December 2024 or Revision 2 dated 10 April 2025.

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 25 July 2025.
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: SAFRAN Seats France, Rue Robert Marechal Senior, 36100 Issoudun, France; Telephone: +33 (0) 2 54 03 39 39; Email: product.support.fr.sst@customer.safrangroup.com.

