



Notification of a Proposal to issue an Airworthiness Directive

PAD No.: 26-029

Issued: 10 February 2026

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 S.A.S.

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 55 – Stabilizers – NACA Vent Intake Panel – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

Applicability:

Airbus A330-202, A330-243, A330-243F, A330-302, A330-323, A330-343, A330-841 and A330-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) having Airbus modification (mod) 204955 embodied, except those which have Airbus mod 211016 embodied.

Definitions:

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

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A330-55-3054.

Reason:

Investigation revealed a potential discrepant gap between the NACA panel and horizontal tail plane skin.

This condition, if not corrected, could lead to a fuel leak through the access panel edge, possibly resulting in improper protection against lightning ignition risk, and increased risk of a fire.



To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus published the SB, providing instructions for modification of NACA vent intake panel installation.

For the reason described above, this AD requires modification of NACA vent intake panel 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) Within 21 months after the effective date of this AD, replace each screw Part Number (P/N) NAS1153V9, installed on NACA Vent Intake Panel 346AB, with screws P/N NAS1153V8, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Parts Installation:

- (2) After modification of an aeroplane as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, do not install any screw P/N NAS1153V9 on the NACA Vent Intake Panel 346AB of that aeroplane.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A330-55-3054 original issue dated 29 January 2026.

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 10 March 2026.
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 – IIAL (Airworthiness Office), E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.

