

AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

released by DIRECTION GENERALE DE L'AVIATION CIVILE

Inspection and/or modifications described below are mandatory. No person may operate a product to which this Airworthiness Directive applies except in accordance with the requirements of this Airworthiness Directive.

Translation of 'Consigne de Navigabilité' ref. : 1999-178-086(B) R2
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A330 aircraft

Slide/raft - Inspect slide and slide/raft release pin and parachute pin installation (ATA 25)

APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS A330 aircraft, models -202, -223, -301, -321, -322 and -341 all serial numbers lying between 0012 and 0223 inclusive, except following aircraft:

- Aircraft which have serial numbers 0181, 0195, 0209 and 0222,
- Aircraft on which AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modifications:
 - . 48840 or 48843 for doors 1, 2, and 4, and
 - . 48841 or 48842 for door 3have been embodied in production,
- Aircraft on which AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin (SB) A330-25-3126 has been embodied in service.

REASONS:

During operational tests of slide/slide raft deployment on an in-service aircraft, a case was reported where the slide raft failed to deploy and the door was blocked partly in half way position.

It was also reported that an emergency exit slide deployed and inflated but its packboard remained standing in the doorway.

Incorrect installation of the rail release pin on the slide raft pack assembly was the origin of the half way door blockage.

Premature release of the parachute pin of the escape slide was the origin of the packboard being restrained and remaining in a vertical position in the exit.

To ensure a normal opening of the door and a correct deployment of slide/slide raft in the event of an emergency evacuation, this one time inspection is rendered mandatory.

The inspection in accordance with the AMM instructions (25-62-41/25-62-42) effective before the revision of July 1998 has revealed that the installation of the release pin was not correctly shown.

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The aim of Revision 1 of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) is to exclude of the applicability field aircraft on which modifications 48840, 48841, 48842 and 48843 have been embodied in production or SB A330-25-3126 in service.

The aim of Revision 2 of this AD is to give details on the applicability paragraph.

COMPLIANCE:

The following measures are applicable to all slides and slide rafts installed on passenger/crew doors (Type A) and emergency exit doors (Type A or type 1) L/H and R/H, at the latest within 2,000 flight hours from the effective date of this AD at original issue, unless already accomplished:

1. Perform a visual inspection to verify the correct installation of the rail release pin in the release rail in accordance with the instructions given in SB A330-25-3086.
2. Perform a visual inspection to verify the correct installation of the parachute pin of the slide in accordance with the instructions given in SB A330-25-3086.

This one-time inspection is warranted knowing that since revision of July 1998 the AMM instructions were updated to ensure a correct installation of the release pin.

REF.: Service Bulletin AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A330-25-3086
Service Bulletin AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A330-25-3126
(any other later approved revision of these SB's is acceptable).

This Revision 2 replaces AD 1999-178-086(B) R1 issued on October 03, 2001.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original AD : MAY 15, 1999
Revisions 1 and 2 : OCTOBER 13, 2001