

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. : 1999-503-127(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A340 aircraft

Fuselage - Reinforcement of joint
at frames 48 to 53.2 between stringers 24 to 26 (ATA 53)

APPLICABILITY:

This Airworthiness Directive applies to all AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A340 aircraft models -211, -212, -213, -311, -312 and -313 which have not received AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modification 42409 (or AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-53-4023 at original issue or any further approved revision).

REASONS:

1. To prevent a damage at frame splice area and attachment on FR. 48 to FR 53.2 between stringers 24 to 26 (LH/RH) caused by cracks evidenced during fatigue tests and which could lead to a reduced structural integrity.
2. Airworthiness Directive 96-005-039(B) dealing with the same subject is cancelled and replaced by this Airworthiness Directive further to the more restrictive new flight hours and flight cycles thresholds defined by the manufacturer.

COMPLIANCE:

The following measures are rendered mandatory unless already previously accomplished:

a) Frames 53/53.1/53.2:

Before accumulation of 4600 flight cycles or 35500 flight hours since new, whichever occurs first, accomplish the reinforcement of joint from frames 53/53.1/53.2 between stringers 24 to 26 (LH/RH) in accordance with the instructions given in AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-53-4023 R4.

b) Frames 48 to 52

Before accumulation of 12400 flight cycles or 94200 flight hours since new, whichever occurs first, accomplish the reinforcement of joint from frames 48 to 52 between stringers 24 to 26 (LH/RH) in accordance with the instructions given in AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-53-4023 R4.

Note: No further action is required after accomplishment of AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-53-4023 at initial issue or any further approved revision, recommended by the manufacturer before 2800 flights or 21300 flight hours (Frames 53/53.2) and 9300 flights or 70300 flight hours (Frames 48-52).

REF.: AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-53-4023 R4
(Or any further approved revisions).

This Airworthiness Directive replaces AD 96-005-039(B) which is cancelled by its Revision 1.

EFFECTIVE DATE : DECEMBER 25, 1999