

# AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE

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*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. : 1999-505-129(B)  
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

## AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

### A340 aircraft

Wings - Center spar/stringer 15 lower joint (ATA 57)

#### APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A340 aircraft models -211, -311, -312 Serial Numbers 0005 through 0009, 0011, 0013 through 0016, 0018 through 0029, 0031 through 0036, 0038 through 0041, 0043 and 0044, which have not received AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-57-4055 at initial issue or any further approved revision.

#### REASONS:

It was evidenced, during wing fatigue tests, crack initiation from holes at the center spar/stringer 15 lower joint between rib 11 and 12.

This situation could lead to a reduced structural integrity if not corrected.

#### COMPLIANCE:

The following measures are rendered mandatory, unless already accomplished:

##### Configuration 1 (Aircraft Pre-Mod 40610):

Before accumulation of 9000 flights or 36000 flight hours since new, whichever occurs first, for aircraft which have not received AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Modification 40610 or,

##### Configuration 2 (Aircraft Post-Mod 40610):

Before accumulation of 13700 flights or 54800 flight hours since new, whichever occurs first, for aircraft which have received AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Modification 40610,

- Inspect the holes and replace clearance fit bolts at center spar/stringer 15 lower joint with interference fit bolts in accordance with the instructions given in AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-57-4055 R1.

**Note:** To avoid extensive damage and extended grounding of the aircraft, it is strongly recommended by the manufacturer to accomplish the Service Bulletin A340-57-4055 R1 before accumulation of 7000 cycles or 28000 flight hours, whichever occurs first, for aircraft Pre-Mod 40610 or before accumulation of 12000 cycles or 48000 flight hours, whichever occurs first, for aircraft Post-Mod 40610.

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**REF.:** AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A340-57-4055 R1  
(Or any further approved revisions).

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**EFFECTIVE DATE : DECEMBER 25, 1999**