

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. : 2001-040(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A340 aircraft

Fuselage - VHF2 antenna - Inspection for cracks detection and modification (ATA 53)

APPLICABILITY

This Airworthiness Directive (AD) applies to AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A340 aircraft models -211, -212, -213, -311, -312 and -313, all serial numbers which have received none of the following AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modifications or AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletins (SB) :

- Modification 46025 (or SB A340-53-4108),
- Modification 46900,
- Modification 46849 (or SB A340-53-4124).

REASONS

To prevent a rapid propagation of the crack below VHF2 antenna location between frame 54 and 55 caused by the vibration of the antenna which could lead to a depressurisation of the aircraft.

AD 1998-193-089(B) R2 dealing with the same subject is cancelled by its revision 3 and replaced by this AD.

This new AD restates the inspection of AD 1998-193-089(B) R2 until the embodiment of the terminative action (two solutions are available) which is rendered mandatory as defined hereunder.

COMPLIANCE

The following measures are rendered mandatory on the effective date of this AD:

1. Before accumulation of 900 flight hours since first flight or within 1250 flight hours after accomplishment of the repair as per SB A340-53-4105 (or A.O.T. 53-10) or within 500 flight hours from June 03, 1998 (Effective date of AD 98-193-089(B) at original issue), whichever occurs later, unless already previously accomplished, perform a High Frequency Eddy Current (HFEC) inspection of the concerned area in accordance with the instructions given in the SB A340-53-4105 Revision 2 and accomplish, if necessary, the repair solution in accordance with the instructions given in the flow-chart (Figure 1) of SB A340-53-4105 Revision 2.

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January 24, 2001

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE
A340 aircraft

2001-040(B)

- For aircraft which have accumulated more than 900 flight hours since first flight and which have not yet been inspected or which have accumulated more than 1250 flight hours after accomplishment of the repair as per SB A340-53-4105 (or A.O.T. 53-10) or more than 300 flight hours after the last HFEC inspection accomplished as per SB A340-53-4105 (or A.O.T. 53-10), perform a detailed visual inspection of the affected area without removal of the VHF2 antenna every 36 flight hours until the above mentioned HFEC inspection is accomplished.
- For aircraft which have already been repaired after a crack finding in accordance with SB A340-53-4105 Revision 1, apply on from June 3, 1998 (effective date of AD 98-193-089(B) at original issue) the new intervals as defined in the flow chart (Figure 1) of SB A340-53-4105 Revision 2 or perform a detailed visual inspection every 36FH until accomplishment of the next HFEC inspection scheduled as per SB A340-53-4105 Revision 1 and then proceed with the new intervals as per SB A340-53-4105 Revision 2.

Note 1: The interim repair given in the SB A340-53-4105 is technically equivalent to the repair specified in the A.O.T. 53-10 dated September 24, 1997.

2. Repeat the inspection at intervals given in the flow-chart (Figure 1) of SB A340-53-4105 Revision 2 (or any further approved revision).
3. Report the inspection results whatever the findings are to AIRBUS INDUSTRIE.
4. Not later than July 31, 2002, accomplish either of the two modifications of structure/VHF2 antenna considered as the terminative actions in accordance with the instructions given in:
 - SB A340-53-4108 at original issue or any further approved revision,
 - or,
 - SB A340-53-4124 at original issue or any further approved revision.

Note 2: No further action is required after embodiment of SB A340-53-4108 or SB A340-53-4124.

REF.: AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin SB A340-53-4105 original issue, Revision 1, Revision 2 (or any further approved revision).
AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin SB A340-53-4108 original issue (or any further approved revision).
AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin SB A340-53-4124 original issue (or any further approved revision).

This AD replaces AD 1998-193-089(B) R2 which is cancelled by its Revision 3.

EFFECTIVE DATE : FEBRUARY 03, 2001