

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. : 2001-507(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE

A330 aircraft

Inspection of lower flange and radius of floor beam between FR47 and FR48 (ATA 53)

APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS INDUSTRIE A330 aircraft, models -301, -321, -322, -341 and -342 which have not received either AIRBUS INDUSTRIE modification 42418 (or AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin (SB) A330-53-3013 at original issue or any further approved revision).

REASONS:

It was evidenced during fatigue tests, cracks initiation and propagation located on the left floor beam between two fasteners close to frame FR48 on the inboard lower flange of the floor beam at the attachment area with the pressure diaphragm.

Another crack has been found in the flange radius area of the floor beam.

This condition if not corrected, could impair structural integrity of the fuselage.

1. Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2000-453-129(B) was issued to mandate the repetitive inspection of the lower flange of floor beam between FR47 and FR48 and to reinforce the flange within 500 flights in case of findings for cracks length not exceeding 17 mm, on condition that stop holes are performed.
2. In order to take into account a potential ineffective stop holes, this new AD reduces the total permitted cracks length to 12 mm as per SB A330-53-3014 Revision 04.

ACTIONS:

The following measures are rendered mandatory on the effective date of this Airworthiness Directive (AD):

1. Unless already accomplished, before accumulation of 8,400 flights since new, perform an HFEC inspection of the inboard lower flange of the left and right floor beams in accordance with the instructions given in SB A330-53-3014 Revision 04.
2. If necessary perform the corrective actions in accordance with the thresholds and instructions given in SB A330-53-3014 Revision 04.

3. Repeat the inspection at interval not exceeding 3,860 flights or 15,050 flight hours, whichever occurs first.

Note: the repetitive inspection required by this AD is cancelled after embodiment of SB A330-53-3013 at original issue or any further approved revision.

REF. : AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3013
AIRBUS INDUSTRIE Service Bulletin A330-53-3014 Revision 04
(Any further approved revision of these SB's is acceptable).

This AD replaces AD 2000-453-129(B) which is cancelled by its Revision 1.

EFFECTIVE DATE : OCTOBER 27, 2001