

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. : 2001-554-087(B) R1
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

ATR

ATR 42 aircraft

Wing to fuselage fairing panel (ATA 53)

1. APPLICABILITY:

ATR 42-200, -300 and -320 models aircraft except for aircraft on which modification 8295 (Service Bulletin (SB) ATR 42-53-0125) has been embodied.

2. REASONS:

Recently some ATR operators reported vibrations during flight which vary with speed.

The inspections made on the wing to fuselage fairing panels have established that the cause was a damaged 291 BL panel, which is fitted on the fuselage between the front spar and the fuselage.

The loss of stiffness in panel 291 BL as a result of the damage can lead, at high speed, to partial detachment of the trailing edge and the appearance of vibrations.

Although the level of these vibrations has no effect on aircraft handling qualities, it can be a considerable nuisance for the crew in managing the flight and this could push an unaware crew to interrupt the flight.

Revision 1 of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) takes Revision 1 of the Service Bulletin (SB) ATR 42-53-0123 into account. Repetition interval of the inspection required in paragraph 3.1. evolves from 1,000 flights to 1,000 Flight Hours (FH).

3. COMPLIANCE:

The following measures are rendered mandatory from the effective date of this AD, at original issue.

3.1. Within 3 months from the effective date of this AD at original issue, and until the panel is replaced with a stiffened one in accordance with SB ATR 42-53-0125, perform the inspection of the fairing panel 291 BL following the instructions given by the SB ATR 42-53-0123.

Repeat this inspection at intervals not exceeding 1,000 FH.

3.2. Before the November 1st, 2004, remove and replace the fairing panel 291 BL in accordance with instructions given by SB ATR 42-53-0125.

Application of the prescriptions of paragraph 3.2. cancels the repetitive inspection required by paragraph 3.1. and constitutes the terminating action of this AD.

REF.: Service Bulletin ATR 42-53-0123 Revision 1
Service Bulletin ATR 42-53-0125
Any later approved revision of these SB's is acceptable.

This Revision 1 replaces original AD 2001-554-087(B), issued on November 14, 2001.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original AD : NOVEMBER 24, 2001
Revision 1 : OCTOBER 12, 2002