

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. : 2002-220(B) R1
 In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS

A319 and A320 aircraft

Modification of fuel probes (ATA 28)

1. APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS aircraft:

- A319 and A320, all certified models and all serial numbers (MSN), except aircraft that have received AIRBUS modification 28904 in production or AIRBUS Service Bulletin (SB) A320-28-1087 in service,
 - A319 and A320, all certified models and all MSN, on which is installed first Additional Centre Tank (ACT) by application of AIRBUS modification 25714 in production (SB A320-28-1081 in service), except aircraft that have received AIRBUS modifications 28904 and 30196 in production or SB A320-28-1087 in service,
 - A319 and A320, all certified models and all MSN, on which is installed second ACT by application of AIRBUS modification 26131 in production (SB A320-28-1081 in service), except aircraft that have received AIRBUS modifications 28904 and 30492 in production or SB A320-28-1087 in service,
- [...]
- A319, all certified models and all MSN, having received AIRBUS modifications 28238, 28162 and 28342 in production, except aircraft that have received application of AIRBUS modifications 28720, 28904 and 30227 in production or of both SB's A320-28-1086 and A320-28-1087 in service.

2. REASONS:

2.1. Investigations performed by the manufacturer have revealed a potential risk of a 28V DC short circuit, external to the fuel tank, of fuel quantity probes wiring that enters the tank. This short circuit could lead to an overheat of the probes.

In such a case, the probe temperature could reach the auto flame of fuel vapour thus leading to a potential explosion risk.

2.2. During testing of the ACT, it was found that regulation JAR 25.0969 relevant to 2 % of tank expansion compliance could not be achieved. To overcome this deficiency, a modification (AIRBUS No. 28720) is mandated to lower the position of the high level sensors and ensure that a 2 % expansion area is available in the tanks.

Revision 1 of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) extends the applicability field. At least three aircraft: MSN 1212, 1256 and 1335 were not covered by the AD at its original issue.

3. MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:

[...]

Before December 31, 2004 or within 4,000 flight hours following the effective date of this AD at its original issue, whichever occurs first, unless already accomplished, apply the following corrective actions:

3.1. Modify the electrical connectors of the fuel tank probes in accordance with the instructions given in SB A320-28-1087.

3.2. For A319 having received AIRBUS modifications 28238, 28162 and 28342 in production, in addition to AIRBUS SB A320-28-1087, replace the level sensors of the fuel tank in accordance with the instructions given in SB A320-28-1086.

REF.: AIRBUS Service Bulletin A320-28-1086
AIRBUS Service Bulletin A320-28-1087
Any later approved revision of these SB's is acceptable.

This Revision 1 replaces original AD 2002-220(B) dated April 30, 2002.

EFFECTIVE DATES :

Original issue : MAY, 11 2002
Revision 1 : OCTOBER 25, 2003