

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. : 2002-531(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS

A320 aircraft

Wing - Inspection of rear spar between ribs 1 and 2 (ATA 57)

APPLICABILITY:

A320 AIRBUS aircraft, models -111, -211, -231, Manufacturing Serial Numbers (MSN) 002 to 071 included, except for aircraft that have received AIRBUS modification No. 21233 in production or AIRBUS Service Bulletin (SB) A320-57-1021 in service.

REASONS:

The purpose of Airworthiness Directive (AD) 92-204-034(B) was to mandate an inspection of the wing rear spar between ribs 1 and 2.

The threshold and the interval figures were defined on the basis of full-scale fatigue tests.

Since then, a survey, carried out on the A320 family fleet, has highlighted some differences between the mission parameters of in service aircraft and those initially considered. The differences are mainly on the weight of fuel at landing and on the mean flight duration, which are higher than those defined for the analysis of the fatigue related tasks.

This has led to an adjustment of the A320 family reference fatigue mission. Consequently, revised threshold and intervals for the accomplishment of this inspection, expressed in flight cycles (FC) have been introduced.

COMPLIANCE:

On the effective date (ED) of this AD:

1. For aircraft on which an inspection has already been carried out as per SB A320-57-1020 at original issue or Revision 1:

1.1. At the latest of the two following thresholds:

- before accumulation of 2,400 flight cycles since the latest inspection,
- or
- within 1,000 flight cycles from the ED of this AD but without exceeding the accumulation of 3,000 flight cycles since the latest inspection,

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October 30, 2002

AIRBUS
A320 aircraft

2002-531(B)

do a visual inspection of the area around the fasteners on the wing rear spar, LH and RH sides, and apply all necessary corrective actions, in accordance with SB A320-57-1020 at Revision 2.

1.2. Repeat this inspection and apply all necessary corrective actions at intervals not to exceed 2,400 flight cycles, in accordance with the instructions given in SB A320-57-1020 at Revision 2.

2. For aircraft on which no inspection has been carried out as per SB A320-57-1020:

2.1. At the latest of the two following thresholds:

- before accumulation of 10,000 flight cycles since first flight,
or
- within 3,500 flight cycles from the ED of this AD but without exceeding the accumulation of 13,000 flight cycles since first flight,

do a visual inspection of the area around the fasteners on the wing rear spar, LH and RH sides, and apply all necessary corrective actions, in accordance with SB A320-57-1020 at Revision 2.

2.2. Repeat this inspection and apply all necessary corrective actions at intervals not to exceed 2,400 flight cycles, in accordance with the instructions given in SB A320-57-1020 at Revision 2.

Note: Total application of SB A320-57-1021 renders void the requirements of this AD.

REF.: AIRBUS Service Bulletin A320-57-1020 Revision 2
AIRBUS Service Bulletin A320-57-1021
Any later approved revision of these SB's is acceptable.

This AD replaces AD 92-204-034(B) which is cancelled.

EFFECTIVE DATE : NOVEMBER 09, 2002