

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. : 2003-111(B)
In case of any difficulty, reference should be made to the French original issue.

AIRBUS

A340-600 aircraft

Overwing slide packboard door fitting reinforcement (ATA 25)

1. APPLICABILITY:

AIRBUS A340 aircraft, -642 model, all serial numbers, fitted with overwing slide PN 4A3931-1 or PN 4A3931-2.

2. REASONS:

Two in-service events related to the overwing slide system that led to the packboard door loss in flight have been reported. In one of these events, the overwing slide was also lost in flight.

The door 3 ring retainers are fitted inside the composite door by means of 2 screws threaded into 2 blind inserts.

Preliminary investigations are showing that the inserts were detached from the door.

Detachment of one of these inserts will initiate the packboard door separation from the slide enclosure. A slide, being no longer protected by the door, may be pulled from its compartment by the aerodynamic load.

This situation, if not corrected, may lead to aircraft fuselage and/or Trimmable Horizontal Stabiliser damage.

The aim of this Airworthiness Directive (AD) is to render mandatory the reinforcement of the packboard door fitting by modifying the inserts.

3. COMPLIANCE :

Unless already accomplished, within 4 days following the effective date of this AD, modify the packboard door inserts in accordance with the instructions given in AIRBUS All Operators Telex A340-25A5025, paragraph 4.2.

.../...

REF.: AIRBUS All Operator Telex A340-25A5025 dated March 07, 2003.

This AD has been the subject of a "telegraphic" diffusion on March 10, 2003.

EFFECTIVE DATE :

Upon receipt of the "Telegraphic" AD dated MARCH 10, 2003