	<b>AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE</b> <b>No F-2004-091</b>		Distribution: <b>B</b>	Issue date: <b>June 23, 2004</b>	Page : <b>1/2</b>
	This Airworthiness Directive is published by the DGAC : <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> on behalf of EASA, the Primary Airworthiness Authority for the affected product. <input type="checkbox"/> as the Registration Airworthiness Authority for the affected aircraft..			<i>Translation of « Consigne de Navigabilité » of same number.          In case of difficulty, reference should be made to the French issue.</i>	
<b>GSAC publication</b>	<b>No person may operate an aircraft to which an Airworthiness Directive applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that Airworthiness Directive, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry.</b>				
Corresponding foreign Airworthiness Directive(s): <b>Not applicable</b>			Airworthiness Directive(s) replaced: <b>2003-006, cancelled by its Revision 1</b>		
Person in charge of airworthiness: <b>AIRBUS SAS</b>			Type(s): <b>A300 aircraft</b>		
Type certificate(s) No. <b>72</b> TCDS No <b>145</b>					
ATA chapter: <b>27</b>		Subject: <b>Inspection and modification of the variable lever arm assembly (VLA)</b>			

## 1. EFFECTIVITY:

AIRBUS A300 aircraft, except for A300-600 series, all certified models, all serial numbers, on which AIRBUS Service Bulletin A300-27-0198 (modification 12656) has not been embodied.

## 2. REASONS:

### 2.1. Reminder of the reasons mentioned in Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2003-006:

Cases of damage detected on the Variable Lever Arm (VLA) assemblies have been assigned to spring box corrosion phenomena.

It has been confirmed that AIRBUS Service Bulletin (SB) A300-27-0174 (Vendor Service Bulletin TRW 27-21-1H) was not embodied on the affected VLA' s. This SB improves the anti-corrosion protection of the spring boxes to prevent the hardening of the units and subsequent damage to the VLA.


The Telegraphic Airworthiness Directive (TAD) 2001-447 issued on September 24, 2001, rendered a non-repetitive inspection of the VLA' s mandatory.

A new inspection program has since been developed by AIRBUS and especially introduces a repetitive inspection of the VLA' s equipped with spring boxes other than PN 418473-20 or 418473-200.

AD 2003-006 takes over the requirements of AD 2001-447 and renders mandatory this inspection program pending the definition of the final corrective actions.

### 2.2. Reason for this AD:

This AD takes over the requirements of AD 2003-006 and renders mandatory the embodiment of the VLA modification at the threshold defined in the following paragraph.

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### 3. **MANDATORY ACTIONS AND COMPLIANCE TIMES:**

#### 3.1. **Restatement of the requirement of AD 2001-447:**

Perform a non-repetitive visual inspection in accordance with AIRBUS A.O.T. A300-27A0196 within 10 days from the effective date (ED) of AD 2001-447 (September 24, 2001). Inform the manufacturer of all inspection findings, whatever they may be.

#### 3.2. **Restatement of the requirements of AD 2003-006:**

**3.2.1.** Within 500 flight hours from January 18, 2003 (ED of AD 2003-006), unless already accomplished, inspect the VLA, check the identification of the spring boxes and perform any required corrective action, in accordance with the instructions of SB A300-27-0196 Revision 1.

**3.2.2** Repeat the visual inspection of the VLA' s equipped with spring boxes with a PN other than 418473-20 or 418473-200 every 1,000 flight hours, in accordance with the instructions of SB A300-27-0196 Revision 1.

#### 3.3. **VLA Modification (new requirement):**

##### **3.3.1. VLA's fitted with spring box PN 418473-020 or PN 418473-200:**

Within 24 months at the latest from the effective date of this AD, install the new identification plate on the VLA spring boxes and re-identify the VLAs in accordance with the instructions of SB A300-27-0198.

##### **3.3.2. VLA's fitted with spring box PN 418473 or PN 418473-100:**

Within 24 months at the latest from the effective date of this AD, modify the VLA spring boxes and re-identify the VLA's in accordance with the instructions of SB A300-27-0198.

### 4. **REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:**

AIRBUS AOT A300-27A0196 dated September 20, 2001  
AIRBUS Service Bulletins:  
A300-27-0196 Revision 1  
A300-27-0198  
(Any later approved revision of these SBs is acceptable).

### 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

July 03, 2004.

### 6. **REMARK:**

For any question concerning the technical content of this AD, please contact:

AIRBUS SAS - Hubert Angelier - Fax : 33 5 61 93 45 80.

### 7. **APPROVAL:**

This AD is approved under EASA reference No 2004-6367 dated June 15, 2004.