


EASA	EMERGENCY AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE
	<p>EAD No : 2006-0324-E</p> <p>Date: 20 October 2006</p>
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.	
Type Approval Holder's Name : AIRBUS SAS	Type/Model designation(s) : A330 aircraft and A340-200/-300 series
TCDS Number: EASA A.004, EASA A.015	
Foreign AD: Not applicable	
Supersedure: Not applicable	
ATA 32	Landing Gear – Main Landing Gear (MLG) Retraction Link – Replacement
Manufacturer(s):	AIRBUS (formerly AIRBUS INDUSTRIE)
Applicability:	AIRBUS aircraft A330, A340-200 and A340-300 series, all certified models, all serial numbers fitted with MLG retraction link Part Number (PN) 201489311 (LH side) or PN 201489312 (RH side).
Reason:	<p>During full-scale fatigue tests, the retraction link failed on the latest growth production standard MLG prior to its expected life limit.</p> <p>Investigations confirm that the root cause of this premature fracture is due to high lug stress.</p> <p>The retraction link is included in the ALS Part 1- Safe Life Airworthiness Limitation Item – and currently limited to 35,200 Flight Cycles (FC). Its fracture causes un-damped extension of MLG, potentially leading to loss of side stay integrity and then MLG collapse, which constitutes an unsafe condition.</p> <p>The aim of this Emergency Airworthiness Directive (EAD) is to mandate the reduced retraction link life limit and replacement of any retraction link that has exceeded this new limit.</p>
Effective Date:	23 October 2006

Compliance:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Before accumulating 8,300 landings since the initial entry into service of the retraction link assembly or before 30 November 2006, whichever occurs later after the effective date of this directive, replace the retraction link assembly in accordance with instructions defined in Airbus All Operators Telex (AOT) A330-32A3208 or AOT A340-32A4252, as applicable; 2. Not later than 30 November 2006, report to AIRBUS the life accumulation information of each retraction link assembly affected by this directive. <p>Note: This reduced life limit will be incorporated within the next revision of the A330/A340 ALS Part 1.</p>
Ref. Publications:	AIRBUS AOT A330-32A3208 or A340-32A4252, as applicable, both dated 18 October 2006 or any later approved revision
Remarks :	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If requested and appropriately substantiated the responsible EASA manager for the related product has the authority to accept Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs) for this AD. 2. The safety assessment has requested not to implement the full consultation process and an immediate publication and notification. 3. Enquiries regarding this Airworthiness Directive should be referred to the AD Focal Point – Certification Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu 4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS SAS – Airworthiness Office –EAL Fax: + 33 5 61 93 45 80.

SUPERSEDED