EASA AD No.: 2012-0128

AD No.: 2012-0128 Date: 11 July 2012 Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 on behalf of the European Community, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 of that Regulation.

This AD is issued in accordance with EC 1702/2003, Part 21A.3B. In accordance with EC 2042/2003 Annex I, Part M.A.301, the continuing airworthiness of an aircraft shall be ensured by accomplishing any applicable ADs. Consequently, no person may operate an aircraft to which an AD applies, except in accordance with the requirements of that AD, unless otherwise specified by the Agency [EC 2042/2003 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [EC 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name: EADS CASA		Type/Model designation(s): CN-235 aeroplanes	
TCDS Number:	EASA.A.186		
Foreign AD:	Not applicable		
Supersedure:	Supersedure: None		
ATA 52	Doors – Emergency Exit Door(s) Cable Tension – Inspection / Adjustment / Functional Check		
Manufacturer(s):	EADS CASA, formerly Construcciones Aeronáuticas S.A. (CASA).		
Applicability:	CN-235, CN-235-100, CN-235-200 and CN-235-300 aeroplanes, all serial numbers.		
Reason:	Reports have been received of two cases of uncommanded emergency exit door opening on two variants of CASA CN-235 aeroplanes during a training flight and acceptance test, prior to customer delivery. One of the door opening was during a landing and the other one during engine run. The results of the subsequent investigations showed that these events were caused by cable tension rigging below the minimum value.		
	This condition, if not detected and corrected, could, if the aeroplane is operated unpressurised, lead to in-flight opening of the emergency exit door and the door falling inside the aeroplane, possibly resulting in injury to occupants.		
	To address this potentially unsafe condition, EADS CASA issued service information COM 235-255 to ensure that correct tension of the cables is applied.		
	For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time inspection to check the tension of the affected control cables and, depending on findings, adjustment to the correct value.		
Effective Date:	25 July 2012		

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Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):	Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:	
	(1) Within 30 days after the effective date of this AD, accomplish an inspection of the emergency exit door(s) to check the cable tension in accordance with instructions of Airbus Military COM 235-255, which references CN-235 Aircraft Maintenance Manual (AMM) 52.21.00 Block 600 Task No.2 "Measure Tension of Control Cables".	
	(2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, the cable tension is outside the correct range (50 – 80 lbs), as specified in the accomplishment instruction of Airbus Military COM 235-255, before next flight, adjust the cable tension to the correct value in accordance with CN- 235 AMM 52.21.00 Block 500 task No.1 "Adjustment of the Latching Mechanism".	
	(3) Before next flight after the accomplishment of the cable tension inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD or after adjustment of the correct tension value as required by paragraph (2) of this AD, as applicable, accomplish a functional check of the emergency door(s) in accordance with CN-235 AMM 52.21.00 Block 500 task No.3 "Functional Check of the Emergency Exit Door".	
Ref. Publications:	Airbus Military COM 235-255 Revision 1 dated 8 February 2012.	
	The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.	
Remarks:	If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.	
	 This AD was posted on 30 May 2012 as PAD 12-052 for consultation until 27 June 2012. No comments were received during the consultation period. 	
	 Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu. 	
	For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact:	
	EADS CASA (Airbus Military) Services / Engineering Support e-mail: MTA.TechnicalService@military.airbus.com. Fax: +34 91 585 3127	
	For US operators, contact alternatively: e-mail: TechnicalSupport@airbusmilitaryna.com .	