


EASA	PROPOSED AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE	
	PAD No : 07 - 173	
	Date: 21 September 2007	
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		Type/Model designation(s) : A318, A319, A320 and A321 aircraft
TCDS Number: EASA A.064		
Foreign AD: Not applicable		
Supersedure: None		
ATA 25	Equipment / Furnishing – 80VU Rack Attachments – Inspection / Repair / Replacement	
Manufacturer(s):	AIRBUS (formerly AIRBUS INDUSTRIE)	
Applicability:	AIRBUS A318-111, A318-112, A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A320-111, A320-211, A320-212, A320-214, A320-215, A320-216, A320-231, A320-232, A320-233, A321-111, A321-112, A321-131, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231 and A321-232, except aircraft that have embodied AIRBUS modification 34804 in production.	
Reason:	<p>Damage to the lower lateral fittings of the 80VU rack, typically elongated holes, migrated bushes, and/or missing bolts have been reported in-service. In addition damage to the lower central support fitting (including cracking) has been reported.</p> <p>In the worst case scenario a complete failure of the 80VU fittings in combination with a high load factor or strong vibration could lead to failure of the rack structure and/or computers or rupture/disconnection of the cable harnesses to one or more computers located in the 80VU. This rack contains computers for Flight Controls, Communication and Radio-navigation. These functions are duplicated across other racks but during critical phases of flight the multiple system failures/re-configuration may constitute an unsafe condition.</p> <p>This Airworthiness Directive (AD) mandates the repetitive inspection of the</p>	

	<p>lower lateral 80VU fittings for damage and the inspection of the lower central 80VU support for damage and cracking, and the associated corrective actions as necessary with more restrictive actions than defined in AIRBUS Service Bulletin (SB) A320-25A1555 at its original issue.</p> <p>The new requirements defined in this AD will be introduced in revision 1 of SB A320-25A1555.</p>
Effective Date:	[Proposed: 14 days after final AD issue date]
Compliance:	<p>Required as indicated, unless already accomplished:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Repetitive inspection of the 80VU rack lower lateral fittings: <p>Aircraft fitted with the 80VU rack lower lateral fittings modified as per SB A320-25-1557 are not concerned by inspections required by §1 of this AD.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Prior to the accumulation of 24,000 Flight Cycles (FC) from the first flight or within 750 FC after 14th June 2007 (effective date of SB A320-25A1555), whichever occurs later, perform a special detailed inspection of the 80VU rack lower lateral fittings using a boroscope, in accordance with (i.a.w.) the instructions given in SB A320-25A1555. 1.2. Thereafter, repeat the inspection, i.a.w. the instructions given in SB A320-25A1555 at intervals not exceeding 4,500FC. <p>In case the 80VU rack lower lateral fittings have been replaced as per SB A320-25A1555, perform the next due inspection within 24,000 FC from replacement of the fittings.</p> 1.3. In case of findings during inspections required by §1.1 or §1.2 of this AD, apply corrective actions (inspection and/or repair) as necessary i.a.w. the instructions and timeframe given in SB A320-25A1555. 2. Repetitive inspection of the 80VU rack lower central support <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Prior to the accumulation of 24,000 Flight Cycles (FC) from the first flight or within 750 FC after 14th June 2007 (effective date of SB A320-25A1555), which ever occurs later, perform a special detailed inspection of the 80VU rack lower central support using a boroscope, i.a.w. the instructions given in SB A320-25A1555. 2.2. Thereafter, repeat this inspection i.a.w. the instructions given in SB A320-25A1555 at interval not exceeding : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500FC for aircraft fitted with a lower central support that has accumulated more than 30,000FC. • 4,500FC for aircraft fitted with a lower central support that has accumulated less than 30,000FC, without exceeding 30,750FC. <p>In case the 80VU rack lower central support has been repaired or replaced as per SB A320-25A1555 or SB A320-25-1557, perform the next due inspection within 24,000FC from repair or replacement of the central support.</p> 2.3. In case of findings during inspections required by §2.1 or §2.2 of this AD, apply corrective actions (replacement and/or repair) as

	<p>necessary i.a.w. the following instructions and timeframe:</p> <p>2.3.1. If a crack with a length more than 40 mm is found on the front or on the rear sheet (see Figure 3 Sheet 2 of SB A320-25A1555), or if a crack is found on the upper sheet (see Figure 3 Sheet 3 of SB A320-25A1555), repair or replace the lower central support before further flight i.a.w. SB A320-25A1555 or SB A320-25-1557.</p> <p>2.3.2. If a crack with a length less than 40 mm is found on the front or on the rear sheet (see Figure 3 Sheet 2 of SB A320-25A1555), repair or replace i.a.w. SB A320-25A1555 or SB A320-25-1557, within 4,500FC or 20 months, whichever occurs first.</p> <p>Until the repair or replacement of the lower central support, repeat this inspection every 500 FC.</p>
Ref. Publications:	<p>AIRBUS SB A320-25A1555 original issue, AIRBUS SB A320-25-1557 original issue, or later approved revisions of these documents.</p>
Remarks :	<p>1.If requested and appropriately substantiated EASA can accept Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD.</p> <p>2.The closing date for comments is 05 October 2007.</p> <p>3.Enquiries regarding this Airworthiness Directive should be referred to the AD Focal Point - Certification Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu .</p> <p>4.For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS – Airworthiness Office – EAS E-mail: airworth-eas@airbus.com .</p>