

EASA	AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE
	AD No.: 2011-0121 Date: 29 June 2011 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].	
Type Approval Holder's Name :	Type/Model designation(s) :
AIRBUS	A318, A319, A320 and A321 aeroplanes
TCDS Number :	EASA.A.064
Foreign AD :	Not applicable
Supersedure :	None
ATA 57	Wings – Nuts – Inspection / Replacement
Manufacturer(s):	Airbus (formerly Airbus Industrie)
Applicability:	Airbus A318-111, A318-112, A318-121, A318-122, 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 aeroplane models, manufacturer serial numbers: 3359, 3361, 3362, 3365, 3366, 3368, 3370 to 3508 inclusive, 3510 to 3519 inclusive, 3522, 3523, 3525, 3527, 3529, 3530, 3533 to 3534 inclusive, 3537, 3539, 3542, 3544, 3546, 3548, 3552, and 3555.
Reason:	During structural part assembly in Airbus production line, some nuts Part Number (P/N) ASNA2531-4 were found cracked. Investigations were performed to determine the batches of the affected nuts and had revealed that these nuts have been installed in production on the fuel tank area of aeroplanes listed in the applicability section of this AD. Static, fatigue and corrosion tests were performed, which demonstrated that no immediate maintenance action is necessary. However, a large number of these nuts are fitted on primary structural elements, which could have long-term consequences. This condition, if not corrected, could impair the structural integrity of the affected aeroplanes. For the reasons described above, this AD requires a detailed inspection of the affected nuts, associated corrective actions, depending on findings, and replacement of the affected P/N ASNA2531-4 nuts with new ones, having the same P/N.
Effective Date:	13 July 2011

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):	Required as indicated, unless already accomplished: (1) For nuts P/N ASNA2531-4 located in fuel tank areas, within 12 years after the aeroplane first flight, perform a detailed inspection of these nuts, apply the associated corrective actions, depending on findings, and replace all nuts by new ones having the same P/N, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A320-57-1153 (2) Within 90 days after the accomplishment of the inspections required by paragraphs (1) of this AD, report to Airbus the inspection results, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-57-1153.
Ref. Publications :	Airbus Service Bulletin A320-57-1153 at original issue dated 09 February 2010, or Revision 01 dated 28 June 2010. The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.
Remarks :	1. If requested and appropriately substantiated, EASA can approve Alternative Methods of Compliance for this AD. 2. This AD was posted on 04 May 2011 as PAD 11-048 for consultation until 01 June 2011. The Comment Response Documents can be found at http://ad.easa.europa.eu/. 3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the Airworthiness Directives, Safety Management & Research Section, 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 – Airworthiness Office – EIAS, Fax +33 5 61 93 44 51, E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com.