


EASA	NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE AN AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE
	<p>PAD No.: 12-087</p> <p>Date: 24 July 2012</p> <p>Note: This Proposed Airworthiness Directive (PAD) 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.</p>
<p>In accordance with the EASA Continuing Airworthiness Procedures, the Executive Director is proposing the issuance of an EASA Airworthiness Directive (AD), applicable to the aeronautical product(s) identified below. All interested persons may send their comments, referencing the PAD Number above, to the e-mail address specified in the 'Remarks' section, prior to the consultation closing date indicated.</p>	
Design Approval Holder's Name: BAE SYSTEMS (OPERATIONS) LTD	Type/Model designation(s): BAe 146 and AVRO 146-RJ aeroplanes
TCDS Number: EASA.A.182	
Foreign AD: Not applicable	
Supersedure: None	
ATA 53	Fuselage – Rear Fuselage Skin and Frames – Inspection / Repair
Manufacturer(s):	BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd, British Aerospace plc, British Aerospace (Commercial Aircraft) Ltd, British Aerospace (Operations) Ltd, British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Ltd, British Aerospace Regional Aircraft trading as Avro International Aerospace.
Applicability:	BAe 146 and AVRO 146-RJ aeroplanes, all models, all serial numbers.
Reason:	<p>A pressurisation problem on an AVRO 146-RJ100 aeroplane during climb-out has recently been reported. Subsequent investigation results identified a 42.87 inch (1 089 mm) long crack in the fuselage skin in the rear fuselage drum, near the rear passenger door. The skin crack had initiated in the step of the skin land adjacent to a lap joint. In addition to the skin crack, cracks were found in Frames 41X and 42. Existing fatigue inspections of the fuselage skin may not detect a crack growing in this area.</p> <p>This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to degradation of the structural integrity of the aeroplane.</p> <p>Prompted by this finding, BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd issued Inspection Service Bulletin (ISB) 53-239, providing instructions to inspect the internal area of the rear fuselage drum for cracks, corrosion and any other defects.</p> <p>For the reasons described above, this AD requires accomplishment of a one-time inspection of the affected fuselage area and, depending on findings, repair of cracked structural items.</p>
Effective Date:	[TBD: 14 days after final AD issue date]

<p>Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):</p>	<p>Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:</p> <p>(1) Within the compliance time as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, accomplish a low frequency eddy current inspection and a detailed visual inspection in accordance with the instructions of paragraph 2.C of BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd ISB.53-239.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1 - Inspection thresholds</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="571 398 1385 698"> <tr> <th>Flight cycles (FC) accumulated since aeroplane first flight at the effective date of this AD</th><th>Compliance Time</th></tr> <tr> <td>9 000 FC or more</td><td>Within 1 000 FC or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD</td></tr> <tr> <td>Less than 9 000 FC</td><td>Before exceeding 10 000 FC since aeroplane first flight</td></tr> </table> <p>(2) If, during the inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack, corrosion or any other irregularity is detected, before next flight, contact BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd for approved repair instructions and, within the compliance time as specified in those instructions, accomplish the repair accordingly. If no compliance time is defined in the repair instructions, accomplish the repair before next flight.</p> <p>(3) Within 30 days after the accomplishment of inspection, as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, report the inspection result including no finding to BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd using inspection report form of Appendix 1 of ISB.53-239.</p>	Flight cycles (FC) accumulated since aeroplane first flight at the effective date of this AD	Compliance Time	9 000 FC or more	Within 1 000 FC or 6 months, whichever occurs first after the effective date of this AD	Less than 9 000 FC	Before exceeding 10 000 FC since aeroplane first flight
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<p>Ref. Publications:</p>	<p>BAE Systems (Operations) Limited ISB.53-239, dated 13 June 2012.</p> <p>The use of later approved revisions of this document is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.</p>						
<p>Remarks:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 21 August 2012. 2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu. 3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd, Customer Information Department, Prestwick International Airport, Ayrshire, KA9 2RW, Scotland, United Kingdom; Telephone +44 1292 675207, Facsimile +44 1292 675704; E-mail: RApublications@baesystems.com. 						