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| EASA | NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE AN AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE |
|  | <p>PAD No.: 12-116</p> <p>Date: 11 September 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: Airbus | Type/Model designation(s): Airbus A380 aeroplanes |
| TCDS Number: | EASA.A.110 |
| Foreign AD: | Not applicable |
| Supersedure: | None |
| ATA 53 | Fuselage – Cone/Rear Fuselage Lower Beam at Section 19 Frame 102 – Inspection / Modification |
| Manufacturer(s): | Airbus |
| Applicability: | Airbus A380-841, A380-842, and A380-861 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers (MSN) except MSN 002, and aeroplanes on which Airbus modification 71345 has been embodied in production. |
| Reason: | <p>During full scale fatigue tests, cracks were found at the attachments of Frame (FR) 102 to the Left-Hand (LH) and Right-Hand (RH) lower beams in the cone/rear fuselage at section 19.</p> <p>This condition, if not detected and corrected, could affect the structural integrity of the aeroplane.</p> <p>To address this unsafe condition, Airbus issued Service Bulletin (SB) A380-53-8054 and SB A380-53-8039 to provide accomplishment instructions for inspection of the attachments of FR102 to the LH and RH Lower Beams in the Cone/Rear Fuselage Section 19 and instructions for Beam Reinforcement on the LH and RH Lower Beams at the attachments to Frame 102.</p> <p>For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time Detailed Visual Inspection (DVI) and a High-Frequency Eddy Current (HFEC) inspection of Section 19 LH and RH lower beam at FR102 and, depending on crack findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective actions. This AD also requires installation of beam reinforcements on the LH and RH lower beams at the attachments to Frame 102.</p> |
| Effective Date: | [TBD: 14 days after final AD issue date] |

| Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s): | <p>Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:</p> <p>(1) Before the accumulation of 2 600 flight cycles (FC) after the aeroplane first flight, accomplish a DVI, followed by a HFEC, of Section 19 LH and RH lower beam at FR102 joint for upper and lower side in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8054.</p> <p>(2) If, during the inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack is detected on the LH or RH lower beam, before next flight, accomplish the actions defined in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable to the crack condition:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="571 510 1444 927"> <thead> <tr> <th>Crack condition</th><th>Corrective Action</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>The crack runs in the lower beam radius and the crack length is equal to or less than 35 mm</td><td>Accomplish repair and report to Airbus in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8054 and install the beam reinforcement on the lower beams at FR102 joint, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8039.</td></tr> <tr> <td>The cracks runs in any other direction than the lower beam radius or the crack length is more than 35 mm</td><td>Contact Airbus to get approved repair instructions and, within the compliance time specified in those instructions, accomplish the repair accordingly.</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(3) If, during the inspections as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, no crack is detected, before next flight, install the beam reinforcement on the LH and RH Lower Beams at Frame 102 joint in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8039.</p> | Crack condition | Corrective Action | The crack runs in the lower beam radius and the crack length is equal to or less than 35 mm | Accomplish repair and report to Airbus in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8054 and install the beam reinforcement on the lower beams at FR102 joint, in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8039. | The cracks runs in any other direction than the lower beam radius or the crack length is more than 35 mm | Contact Airbus to get approved repair instructions and, within the compliance time specified in those instructions, accomplish the repair accordingly. |
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| The cracks runs in any other direction than the lower beam radius or the crack length is more than 35 mm | Contact Airbus to get approved repair instructions and, within the compliance time specified in those instructions, accomplish the repair accordingly. | | | | | | |
| Ref. Publications: | <p>Airbus SB A380-53-8039 original issue dated 21 June 2012.</p> <p>Airbus SB A380-53-8054 original issue dated 21 June 2012.</p> <p>The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.</p> | | | | | | |
| Remarks: | <p>1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 09 October 2012.</p> <p>2. Enquiries regarding this PAD should be referred to the Safety Information Section, Executive Directorate, EASA. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.</p> <p>3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this PAD, please contact: AIRBUS SAS - EIANA (Airworthiness Office), Telephone: +33 562110253 ; Fax: +33 562 110 307. E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com and Nabil.Tahiri@airbus.com and Sandra.Cuiec@airbus.com.</p> | | | | | | |