


EASA	NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE AN AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE
	<p>PAD No.: 12-143</p> <p>Date: 13 November 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>	
<p>Design Approval Holder's Name:</p> <p>AIRBUS</p>	<p>Type/Model designation(s):</p> <p>A330 aeroplanes</p>
<p>TCDS Number: EASA A.004</p>	
<p>Foreign AD: Not applicable</p>	
<p>Supersedure: This AD supersedes EASA AD 2006-0266 dated 30 August 2006.</p>	
ATA 53	Fuselage – Frame 53.3 Circumferential Joint – Reinforcement
Manufacturer(s):	Airbus
Applicability:	Airbus A330-201, A330-202, A330-203, A330-223, A330-243, A330-301, A330-321, A330-322, A330-323, A330-341, A330-342 and A330-343 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification 49202 has been embodied in production.
Reason:	<p>During the fatigue tests (EF2) of the Airbus A330 test fuselage, initiation and development of cracks were evidenced at the circumferential joint of frame 53.3.</p> <p>This condition, if not corrected, could lead to a reduction in the structural integrity of the fuselage.</p> <p>EASA issued AD 2006-0266, which took over the requirements of DGAC France AD F-2003-415 for A330-300 pre-mod 41652S11819, and required reinforcement of the circumferential joint of frame 53.3 by application of Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A330-53-3143 on A330-300 post modification 41652S11819 and pre-mod 49202, and all A330-200 pre-mod 49202 in order to improve the fatigue life.</p> <p>Since that AD was issued, in the frame of a new fatigue and damage tolerance evaluation taking into account the aeroplane utilization, the thresholds for the reinforcement were reassessed and the conclusion is that some thresholds must be reduced.</p> <p>For the reason described above, this AD retains the requirements of EASA AD 2006-0266, which is superseded, and requires reinforcement of structure of the</p>

	centre fuselage at the upper circumferential joint of frame 53.3 within the new thresholds.												
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) For A330-301, A330-321, A330-322, A330-323, A330-341, A330-342 and A330-343 aeroplanes on which Airbus modification 41652S11819 has NOT been embodied in production:</p> <p>Within the compliance time defined in Table 1 of this AD, reinforce the structure of the centre fuselage at the upper circumferential joint of frame 53.3 (between Left Hand (LH) stringer 13 and Right Hand (RH) stringer 13), in accordance with the instructions of SB A330-53-3127 Revision 02.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 1 – Compliance Time</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Compliance time (whichever occurs later between A and B)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td><td>Within the threshold defined in Airbus SB A330-53-3127 Revision 02, depending on aeroplane configuration and utilisation and to be counted from the aeroplane first flight.</td></tr> <tr> <td>B</td><td>Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD but without exceeding 14 700 Flight Cycles (FC) or 51 400 Flight Hours (FH) (the previous threshold defined in SB A330-53-3127 Revision 01) to be counted from the aeroplane first flight, whichever occurs first.</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Modification of an aeroplane in accordance with Airbus SB A330-53-3127 at original issue is not acceptable to comply with the requirement of paragraph (1) of this AD.</p> <p>(2) For all A330-200 and A330-300 aeroplanes [as listed in the applicability of this directive] on which Airbus modification 41652S11819 has been embodied in production:</p> <p>Within the compliance time defined in Table 2 of this AD, reinforce the structure of the centre fuselage at the upper circumferential joint of frame 53.3 (between LH stringer 13 and RH stringer 13), in accordance with the instructions of SB A330-53-3143 Revision 05.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Table 2 – Compliance Time</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Compliance time (whichever occurs later between C and D)</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C</td><td>Within the threshold defined in Airbus SB A330-53-3143 Revision 05, depending on aeroplane configuration and utilisation and to be counted from the aeroplane first flight</td></tr> <tr> <td>D</td><td>Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD but without exceeding 17 600 FC or 61 600 FH (the previous threshold defined in SB A330-53-3143 Revision 03) to be counted from the aeroplane first flight, whichever occurs first</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(3) Reinforcement of the structure of the centre fuselage at the upper circumferential joint of frame 53.3 (between LH stringer 13 and RH stringer 13) accomplished on an aeroplane, before the effective date of this AD, in accordance with Airbus SB A330-53-3127 at Revision 01 or SB A330-53-3143 from original issue to Revision 04, is acceptable to comply with the requirements of paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, as applicable.</p>		Compliance time (whichever occurs later between A and B)	A	Within the threshold defined in Airbus SB A330-53-3127 Revision 02, depending on aeroplane configuration and utilisation and to be counted from the aeroplane first flight.	B	Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD but without exceeding 14 700 Flight Cycles (FC) or 51 400 Flight Hours (FH) (the previous threshold defined in SB A330-53-3127 Revision 01) to be counted from the aeroplane first flight, whichever occurs first.		Compliance time (whichever occurs later between C and D)	C	Within the threshold defined in Airbus SB A330-53-3143 Revision 05, depending on aeroplane configuration and utilisation and to be counted from the aeroplane first flight	D	Within 24 months after the effective date of this AD but without exceeding 17 600 FC or 61 600 FH (the previous threshold defined in SB A330-53-3143 Revision 03) to be counted from the aeroplane first flight, whichever occurs first
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Ref. Publications:	<p>Airbus SB A330-53-3127 Revision 01 dated 21 November 2003, or Revision 02 dated 07 December 2011.</p> <p>Airbus SB A330-53-3143 at original issue 24 December 2004, or Revision 01</p>												

	<p>dated 29 June 2006, or Revision 02 dated 31 August 2010, or Revision 03 dated 03 March 2011, or Revision 04 dated 06 December 2011, or Revision 05 dated 29 May 2012.</p> <p>The use of later approved revisions of these documents is acceptable for compliance with the requirements of this AD.</p>
Remarks:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This Proposed AD will be closed for consultation on 11 December 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: AIRBUS – Airworthiness Office – EIAL; E-mail: airworthiness.A330-A340@airbus.com.