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| EASA | NOTIFICATION OF A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE AN AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVE | |
|  | PAD No.: 13-009 Date: 17 January 2013 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. | |
| | 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. | |
| Design Approval Holder's Name: AIRBUS | | Type/Model designation(s): A380 aeroplanes |
| TCDS Number: EASA.A.110 | | |
| Foreign AD: Not applicable | | |
| Supersedure: None | | |
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| ATA 53 | Fuselage – Belly Fairing Structure – Inspection / Repair | |
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| Manufacturer(s): | Airbus | |
| Applicability: | Airbus A380-841, A380-842 and A380-861 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers. | |
| Reason: | <p>During scheduled maintenance checks accomplished by Airbus A380 operators, multiple corrosion spots were identified on belly fairing supports between frames (FR)35 and FR40 and between FR72 and FR76.</p> <p>Subsequent investigations results revealed that the corrosion of these frame areas was due to a lack of connection between drainage lines and belly fairing funnels, which caused water to flow into the affected frame zones.</p> <p>This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to uncontrolled corrosion development which may result in in-flight loss of belly fairing panels, possibly resulting in injuries to persons on the ground.</p> <p>To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued Service Bulletin (SB) A380-53-8056, providing instructions for Detailed Inspections (DI) to detect corrosion of the affected belly fairing structure areas. Airbus also developed Airbus modification (mod.) 73133, embodied during production, to improve corrosion protection of affected areas. The associated Airbus SB A380-53-8057, which provides instruction for embodiment of mod 73133 in-service, is still under development. When SB A380-53-8057 will have been issued, this AD may be revised or superseded accordingly.</p> <p>For the reasons described above, this AD requires accomplishment of repetitive DI of affected belly fairing structure and, depending on corrosion findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).</p> | |

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| 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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Within 24 months since the aeroplane first flight, or within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs later, and thereafter, at intervals not to exceed 24 months, accomplish a DI of the belly fairing structure between FR35 and FR40 and between FR72 and FR76 in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8056. (2) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, corrosion is found, before next flight, contact Airbus for approved repair instructions and accomplish those instructions accordingly. (3) Inspections and corrective actions, accomplished before the effective date of this AD, in accordance with A380 Maintenance Planning Document (MPD) task 533500-00501-01, are acceptable to comply with the initial requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this AD. After the effective date of this AD, repetitive inspections and corrective actions must be accomplished in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A380-53-8056. (4) Aeroplanes on which Airbus mod 73133 has been embodied in production are not affected by the requirements of paragraph (1) of this AD, unless any replacement belly fairing panel, as identified in Appendix 1 of this AD, has been installed since aeroplane first flight on that aeroplanes. |
| Ref. Publications: | <p>Airbus SB A380-53-8056 original issue dated 11 December 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 31 January 2013 . 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 SAS - EIANA (Airworthiness Office) E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com. |

Appendix 1 – Affected Belly Fairing Access Panel part numbers (P/N) (pre-MOD 73133)

| Belly Fairing Access Panel Reference | P/N |
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| 191BB | L5338172200200 |
| | L5338172200400 |
| 192BB | L5338178600400 |
| | L5338178600600 |
| 199AB | L5338572200400 |
| | L5338572200600 |
| | L5338572200800 |
| 199HB | L5338572400400 |
| | L5338572400600 |
| | L5338572401000 |
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