



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0099

Issued: 24 April 2018

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, 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 Regulation (EU) 748/2012, Part 21.A.3B. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 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 [Regulation (EU) 1321/2014 Annex I, Part M.A.303] or agreed with the Authority of the State of Registry [Regulation (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:

AIRBUS

Type/Model designation(s):

A380 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 24 May 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.110

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 28 – Fuel – Trim Tank Vent Pipes – Inspection

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A380-841, A380-842 and A380-861 aeroplanes, manufacturer serial numbers as listed in the SB.

Definitions:

For the purpose of this AD, the following definitions apply:

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A380-28-8052 original issue dated 24 January 2018.

Reason:

It has been identified that the production line test, which verifies the trim tank pressure during a refuel overflow, has not been performed on certain aeroplanes. Therefore, on those aeroplanes, the vent pipes have not been tested or inspected. This particular production test also ensures that there are no blockages in the vent pipes.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to overpressure inside the horizontal tail plane (HTP) structure, possibly reducing the structural integrity of the HTP.



To address this potential unsafe condition, ensuring continued operational reliability of the forward trim tank venting system, Airbus developed a one-time borescope inspection on the forward trim tank vent line and published the SB accordingly.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time borescope inspection of the forward trim tank vent pipes, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s) in case of blockages, a detailed inspection (DET) of the HTP torque box and repair, as necessary.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection:

- (1) Within 32 months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish a borescope inspection on the forward trim tank vent line in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Corrective Action(s):

- (2) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any blockage is detected in the forward trim tank vent pipes, before next flight, accomplish the actions specified in paragraphs (2.1) and (2.2) of this AD, concurrently and in sequence, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

(2.1) Applicable corrective action(s).

(2.2) A DET of the HTP torque box.

- (3) If, during the DET as required by paragraph (2.2) of this AD, any discrepancy is detected, before next flight, contact Airbus for approved repair instructions and, within the compliance time(s) specified in those instructions, accomplish those instructions accordingly.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A380-28-8052 original issue dated 24 January 2018.

The use of later approved revisions of the above-mentioned 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 15 February 2018 as PAD 18-025 and re-published on 16 February 2018 as PAD 18-025R1 for consultation until 15 March 2018. No comments were received during the consultation period.
3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.



4. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS SAS - EIANA (Airworthiness Office), Telephone: +33 562 110 253, Fax: +33 562 110 307, E-mail: account.airworth-A380@airbus.com.

