



Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0123

Issued: 04 June 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):

A350 aeroplanes

Effective Date: 18 June 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.151

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Tail Cone Balancer Fitting Anchor Nuts and Fasteners – Modification

Manufacturer(s):

Airbus

Applicability:

Airbus A350-941 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers, except those on which Airbus modification (mod) 110319 or mod 110348 has been embodied in production.

Definitions:

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

Aeroplane date of manufacture: The date of transfer of title, as referenced in Airbus documentation at the time of first delivery to an operator.

The SB: Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A350-53-P024.

Reason:

Following a complete review of the Airbus A350 structure design principles database for type definition, it was revealed that the balancer fitting part, installed on the tail cone, lower section of Frame (FR) 103, has several corrosion resistant stainless steel nuts installed on elementary aluminium parts, which does not meet the requirements for protection against corrosion.



This condition, if not corrected, could reduce the structural integrity of the aeroplane.

To address this unsafe condition, Airbus developed production mod 110319 to improve protection against corrosion, and issued the SB to provide modification instructions for in-service pre-mod aeroplanes. At the same time the production mod 110348 is equivalent to in-service solution.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a modification, adding new additional overcoat sealant and elastic varnish on the affected nuts and fastener heads.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Corrective Action(s):

Within 72 months after the aeroplane date of manufacture, apply additional corrosion protection to the fastener heads and the anchor nuts of the balancer fitting at FR103, in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Ref. Publications:

Airbus SB A350-53-P024 original issue, dated 03 April 2018.

The use of later approved revisions of this 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 26 April 2018 as PAD 18-058 for consultation until 24 May 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. Information about any failures, malfunctions, defects or other occurrences, which may be similar to the unsafe condition addressed by this AD, and which may occur, or have occurred on a product, part or appliance not affected by this AD, can be reported to the [EU aviation safety reporting system](#).
5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: continued-airworthiness.a350@airbus.com.

