Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2018-0187R1

Issued: 10 May 2019

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 129 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 (EU) 2018/1139, Article 71 exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:
SAAB AB

Type/Model designation(s):
SAAB 2000 aeroplanes

Effective Date: Revision 1: 17 May 2019
Original issue: 12 September 2018

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.069

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Revision: This AD revises EASA AD 2018-0187 dated 29 August 2018.

ATA 28 – Fuel – Fuel Quantity Reading Probes and Low Level Sensors – Functional Check

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Manufacturer(s):
SAAB AB (SAAB)

Applicability:
SAAB 2000 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers.

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

The SB: SAAB Service Bulletin (SB) 2000-28-028.

Affected part: Fuel probes, Part Number (P/N) 20136-0101, P/N 20136-0102, P/N 20136-0103, P/N 20136-0104, P/N 20136-0105 and P/N 20136-0106; and fuel low level sensors, P/N 20137-0101.

Serviceable part: An affected part, having accumulated less than 1 500 flight hours (FH) or 12 months since installation on an aeroplane, having been checked and found to be within the acceptable tolerances, in accordance with the instructions of the SB, or received as serviceable following repair or overhaul.

Reason:

Occurrences were reported that certain fuel probes, installed on SAAB 2000 aeroplanes, indicated misleading fuel quantities on the engine indicating and crew alerting system (EICAS). The investigation results suggest that this may be an ageing phenomenon, leading to deteriorated capacity of the fuel probes.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, could lead to incorrect fuel reading, possibly resulting in fuel starvation and uncommanded engine in-flight shut-down, with consequent reduced control of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, SAAB issued the SB to provide instructions for a functional check.

For the reason described above, this AD requires a one-time functional check of the fuel quantity system and the fuel low level EICAS warnings to determine whether any affected parts are out of tolerance and, depending on findings, replacement of those affected parts.

This AD is revised to amend the definition of a serviceable part.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

Inspection(s):

(1) Within 1 500 FH or 12 months, whichever occurs first after 12 September 2018 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], accomplish a functional check of the fuel indicator gauging accuracy and the low level warning in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Corrective Action(s):

(2) If, during the check as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any indication or reading is found to be out of tolerance, within the limits and under the applicable conditions as specified in the SAAB Master Minimum Equipment List, replace the affected part with a serviceable part in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Parts Installation:

(3) From 12 September 2018 [the effective date of the original issue of this AD], it is allowed to install on any aeroplane an affected part, provided it is a serviceable part, as defined in this AD.

Ref. Publications:

SAAB SB 2000-28-028 original issue dated 19 April 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. The original issue of this AD was posted on 08 June 2018 as PAD 18-079 for consultation until 06 July 2018. The Comment Response Document can be found in the EASA Safety Publications Tool, in the compressed (zipped) file attached to the record for this AD.

3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Programming and Continued Airworthiness 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: SAAB AB, Support and Services, SE-581 88 Linköping, Sweden,
E-mail: Saab2000.techsupport@saabgroup.com.