

Continued Airworthiness Notification to the International Community

To: Civil Aviation Authorities

Date: September 24, 2020

From: Federal Aviation Administration
Aircraft Certification Service
Compliance & Airworthiness Division

Subject: This message is to advise you of FAA Airworthiness Directive (AD) 2020-16-01, effective August 19, 2020, which incorporated by reference European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2020-0133, dated June 10, 2020, but also affects a part not included in the EASA AD.

Situation description: EASA AD 2020-0133 applies to all Airbus SAS Model A318, A319, A320, and A321 series airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports of low halon concentration in the forward and aft cargo compartments due to air leakage through cargo door seals. This condition, if not corrected, could affect the fire extinguishing system efficiency in the cargo compartments, possibly resulting in failure of the system to contain a cargo compartment fire. EASA AD 2020-0133 requires repetitive cleaning and greasing of forward and aft cargo door seals having Part Number (P/N) D523-71060-200-00, P/N D523-71060-202-00, or P/N D523-71060-204-00 (for A319, A320, and A321 airplanes); P/N D523-73001-200-00 or P/N D523-73001-202-00 (for A318 airplanes); and bulk cargo door seals having P/N D523-72002-200-00 or P/N D523-72002-202-00. FAA AD 2020-16-01 requires cleaning and greasing those part numbers but also includes forward and aft cargo door seal P/N D5237106020400S, approved under the FAA Part Manufacturer Approval (PMA) PQ1715CE. The EASA AD 2020-0133 does not address the seal P/N approved by the FAA PMA PQ1715CE.

Aircraft/engine make, model, and series: Airbus SAS A318, A319, A320, and A321 series airplanes.

U.S.-registered fleet: Approximately 1,630 airplanes

Operators: American, Delta, United, JetBlue, Frontier, Spirit, Alaska, Allegiant, Avianca, Volaris

Ongoing activities: If EASA issues an AD related to mandatory terminating action, the FAA may issue additional rulemaking.

FAA contact: Sanjay Ralhan, Acting Manager
Large Aircraft Section, AIR-731, International Validation Branch,
Compliance & Airworthiness Division
Aircraft Certification Services, Federal Aviation Administration
Phone: 206-231-3223