

Boeing 747 Series Aeroplanes

AD/B747/159

Forward Pressure Bulkhead

8/96

Applicability: All model 747s, line numbers 1 to 886 excepting 80, 85 and 151.

Requirement: Inspect the forward pressure bulkhead structure in accordance with Boeing SB 747-53-2355.

Note: This Service Bulletin supersedes Boeing SB 747-53-2210.

Compliance: Inspect at the flight thresholds and intervals specified in Boeing SB 747-53-2355, Paragraph D. Aircraft over these times must be inspected within 500 flights after 18 July 1996.

Modification or repair of each area in accordance with Boeing SB 747-53-2355 cancels the inspection requirements for that area.

Note: For the purposes of this AD, flights on which the cabin pressure differential does not exceed 2.0 psi need not be counted.

Background: Numerous cracks caused by cyclic pressure loads have been found in the forward pressure bulkhead on aircraft in service and on both the 747 forward fuselage fatigue test articles. A series of inspections and structural changes are required to limit the fatigue damage to the bulkhead. This Directive replaces outer ring chord inspections previously specified in AD/B747/46 Amdt 4.