



## Airworthiness Directive

**AD No.:** 2020-0052

**Issued:** 10 March 2020

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:**

AIRBUS

**Type/Model designation(s):**

A319 aeroplanes

**Effective Date:** 24 March 2020

**TCDS Number(s):** EASA.A.064

**Foreign AD:** None

**Supersedure:** Not applicable

### ATA 53 – Fuselage – Satellite Communications Antenna Doublers – Inspection / Replacement

#### Manufacturer(s):

Airbus, formerly Airbus Industrie

#### Applicability:

Airbus A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132 and A319-133 aeroplanes, all manufacturer serial numbers except:

- A319 aeroplanes on which Airbus modification (mod) 160001 was embodied in production or Airbus Service Bulletin (SB) A320-57-1193 (mod 160080) was embodied in service;
- A319 aeroplanes on which Airbus mod 28238, mod 28162 and mod 28342 were embodied in production.

#### Definitions:

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

**Affected fastener hole:** Fastener holes for the satellite communications (SATCOM) antenna doubler installation, located in section 17 between Frame (FR)58 and FR61 – upper shell.

**The SB:** Airbus SB A320-53-1302.



**Groups:**

Group 1 are aeroplanes on which Airbus mod 26372 or mod 26995 or mod 32856 was embodied in production, or Airbus SB A320-23-1211 was embodied in service.

Group 2 are aeroplanes which are not Group 1.

**Reason:**

In response to US 14 CFR Part 26, Airbus assessed all structural items of the Airbus A320 Family deemed potentially susceptible to Widespread Fatigue Damage (WFD). Following this analysis, Airbus determined that the SATCOM antenna doubler installation does not meet the Extended Service Goal (ESG) requirements.

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

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the SB to provide instructions to accomplish a special detailed inspection (SDI) of the affected fastener holes and to replace the SATCOM antenna doubler with a modified doubler.

The analysis also determined that A319 specific configurations, A320 and A321 aeroplanes are not affected by the requirements of this AD, as the inspection threshold is beyond the ESG for these models.

For the reasons described above, this AD requires a one-time SDI of affected fastener holes, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s), depending on findings, and replacement of the SATCOM antenna doubler.

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

Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

**Inspection(s):**

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within the compliance times as specified in Table 1 of this AD, as applicable, remove the SATCOM antenna doubler and accomplish an SDI of each affected fastener hole in accordance with the instructions of the SB.

Table 1: Compliance Time (see Note 1 of this AD)

| <b>Lower Threshold,</b><br>not before (flight hours (FH)<br>or flight cycles (FC),<br>whichever occurs first) | <b>Upper Threshold,</b><br>not to exceed (FH or FC,<br>whichever occurs first ) |
|---|---|
| 91 200 FH or 45 600 FC  | 108 800 FH or 54 400 FC   |

Note 1: The FH and FC specified in Table 1 of this AD are those accumulated since first flight of the aeroplane for aeroplanes on which Airbus mod 26372, mod 32856, or mod 26995 was embodied in production, or since SB A320-23-1211 accomplishment for aeroplanes on which SB A320-23-1211 has been embodied in service.



**Corrective Action(s):**

- (2) If, during the SDI as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, no cracks are detected, before next flight, modify each affected fastener hole and install a new SATCOM antenna doubler in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
- (3) If, during the SDI as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, any crack is detected, before next flight, contact Airbus for applicable corrective actions, accomplish those instructions accordingly and install a new SATCOM antenna doubler in accordance with the instructions of the SB.
- (4) For Group 2 aeroplanes: From the effective date of this AD, it is allowed to modify the aeroplane in accordance with the instructions of Airbus SB A320-23-1211 provided, after that modification, the actions as required by this AD for Group 1 aeroplanes, as applicable, are accomplished on that aeroplane.

**Ref. Publications:**

Airbus SB A320-53-1302 original issue dated 27 November 2018, and revision 01 dated 18 November 2019.

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 07 February 2020 as PAD 20-032 for consultation until 06 March 2020. No comments were received during the consultation period.
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](mailto: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: AIRBUS – Airworthiness Office – EIAS; Fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; E-mail: [account.airworth-eas@airbus.com](mailto:account.airworth-eas@airbus.com).

