

Reason:

An Airbus supplier identified a quality issue in production, resulting in potential deviations from the specified thickness of various fuselage panels delivered to Airbus.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, in combination with certain repair conditions, could affect the structural integrity of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, Airbus issued the AOT providing inspection instructions for the affected panels.

For the reason described above, this AD requires for each affected part a one-time general visual inspection (GVI) and a full panel thickness measurement, restriction for Master Minimum Equipment List (MMEL) and SRM tasks usage and, depending on findings, accomplishment of applicable corrective action(s).

Restrictions on SRM tasks for Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes are intended to be lifted. It is expected that Airbus will issue instructions supporting a revision of this AD allowing to remove the SRM restriction for Group 1 and Group 2 aeroplanes.

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

Required as indicated by this AD, unless the action(s) required by this AD have been already accomplished:

Reporting:

- (1) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 14 days after the effective date of this AD, for each affected panel, accomplish the 'local thickness mapping', in accordance with the instructions of the AOT, and contact Airbus to report the repair status and any finding of that mapping, and for additional instructions. The AOT provides instructions for this reporting, which are acceptable for compliance with this paragraph.
- (2) Following the reporting to Airbus, as required by paragraph (1) of this AD, accomplish the additional instructions provided by Airbus, within the compliance time specified therein.

Inspection:

- (3) For Group 1 aeroplanes: Within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, accomplish a GVI and a full panel thickness measurement of each affected panel in accordance with the instruction of the AOT.

Corrective action(s):

- (4) If, during any inspection as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any crack is identified on an affected panel, before next flight, contact Airbus for approved repair instructions and within the compliance time specified therein, accomplish those instructions accordingly.
- (5) If, during the full panel thickness measurement as required by paragraph (3) of this AD, any thickness out of the drawing tolerances is identified, as defined in the AOT, within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, contact Airbus for approved repair instructions and within the compliance time specified therein, accomplish those instructions accordingly.



5. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact: AIRBUS – Airworthiness Office – 1IASA; E-mail: account.airworth-eas@airbus.com.

