Airworthiness Directive

AD No.: 2016-0116

Issued: 16 June 2016

Note: This Airworthiness Directive (AD) is issued by EASA, acting in accordance with Regulation (EC) 216/2008 on behalf of the European Union, its Member States and of the European third countries that participate in the activities of EASA under Article 66 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 (EC) 216/2008, Article 14(4) exemption].

Design Approval Holder's Name:
DASSAULT AVIATION

Type/Model designation(s):
Falcon 7X aeroplanes

Effective Date: 30 June 2016

TCDS Number(s): EASA.A.155

Foreign AD: Not applicable

Supersedure: None

ATA 53 – Fuselage – Frame 36/39 Bore Holes and Bolts – Inspection / Replacement

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Manufacturer(s):
Dassault Aviation

Applicability:
Falcon 7X aeroplanes, serial number (s/n) 2 and 5, and s/n 8 to 182 inclusive, except s/n 141, 148, 149, 157, 159, 166, 170, 171, 174, 175 and 177 to 180 inclusive.

Reason:
During the assembly of structural elements on some aeroplanes, lack of established procedures and tools caused boring and torqueing defects to be present at some locations on the foot of frame (FR) 36 and FR39. Dassault Aviation (DA) identified the individual aeroplanes that are potentially affected by this production deficiency. Quality control actions have been implemented to ensure that new aeroplanes, from s/n 183, cannot be affected by this defect.

This condition, if not detected and corrected, would adversely affect the structural integrity of the aeroplane.

To address this potential unsafe condition, DA published Service Bulletin (SB) F7X-379 to provide corrective action instructions.

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For the reasons described above, this AD requires inspection of bore holes and replacement of bolts at FR36 and FR39 and, depending on findings, accomplishment of a repair.

Required Action(s) and Compliance Time(s):
Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously:

(1) For aeroplanes s/n 2 and s/n 5, before exceeding 4 100 flight cycles (FC) since the date of release to service after the first C-check, remove the shear bolts at FR36 and FR39, Left Hand and Right Hand, as identified in DA SB 7X-379, and inspect the affected bore holes in accordance with the instructions of DA SB 7X-379.

(2) For all other affected aeroplanes, before exceeding 4 100 FC since the date of first delivery of the aeroplane, remove the shear bolts and tension bolts at FR36 and FR39, Left Hand and Right Hand, as identified in DA SB 7X-379, inspect the affected bore holes in accordance with the instructions of DA SB 7X-379.

(3) If, during the inspection as required by paragraph (1) or (2) of this AD, as applicable, any discrepancy is found, before next flight, repair the affected area(s) in accordance with the instructions of DA SB 7X-379.

Ref. Publications:
Dassault Aviation SB Falcon 7X-379 initial issuance dated 29 February 2016.

The use of later approved revisions of this 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 19 April 2016 as PAD 16-058 for consultation until 17 May 2016. No comments were received during the consultation period.

3. Enquiries regarding this AD should be referred to the EASA Safety Information Section, Certification Directorate. E-mail: ADs@easa.europa.eu.

3. For any question concerning the technical content of the requirements in this AD, please contact your Dassault Falcon Technical Assistance:
   - For Europe, Middle East and Africa based operators:

     Hot Line: (33) 1 47 11 37 37
   - For USA, Canada and Mexico based operators:

     Help Desk: (1) 800-2FALCON (2325266)
   - All other areas:
     Help Desk: (1) 201 541 4747

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