

Bulletin SB.57-50 (reference R.I.L. HC573H9014): At the next scheduled maintenance inspection ("C-check") or within 6 months after the effective date of this AD, whichever occurs first, do one-time detailed visual and borescopic inspections of the fuel tank, pump, and stringers to detect discrepancies (including paint debris and inadequacy of existing protective treatment coating); per Paragraph D. of the Accomplishment Instructions of British Aerospace Inspection Service Bulletin ISB. 57-57, dated February 25, 2000.

(1) If no discrepancy is found, no further action is required by this AD.

(2) If any discrepancy is found, prior to further flight, do all applicable corrective actions (including removal of paint debris and testing of paint adhesion), and the terminating action required by paragraph (c) of this AD, per British Aerospace (Operations) Limited Inspection Service Bulletin ISB. 57-57, dated February 25, 2000.

**Note 3:** Paragraph B. of the Accomplishment Instructions of British Aerospace (Operations) Limited Inspection Service Bulletin ISB.57-57, dated February 25, 2000, references R.I.L. HC573H9024 as an additional source of service information for accomplishing the intrascopic inspection. Paragraph C. of the Accomplishment Instructions of the service bulletin references R.I.L. HC573H9032 as an additional source of service information for applying the protective treatment coating.

**Note 4:** For the purposes of this AD, a detailed visual inspection is defined as: "An intensive visual examination of a specific structural area, system, installation, or assembly to detect damage, failure, or irregularity. Available lighting is normally supplemented with a direct source of good lighting at intensity deemed appropriate by the inspector. Inspection aids such as mirror, magnifying lenses, etc., may be used. Surface cleaning and elaborate access procedures may be required."

#### Terminating Action

(c) Application of the protective treatment coating, per Paragraph C. of the Accomplishment Instructions of British Aerospace (Operations) Limited Inspection Service Bulletin ISB. 57-57, dated February 25, 2000, constitutes terminating action for the requirements of this AD.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

(d) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

**Note 5:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

#### Special Flight Permits

(e) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

#### Incorporation by Reference

(f) Except as provided by paragraph (a)(2) of this AD, the actions shall be done in accordance with British Aerospace (Operations) Limited Inspection Service Bulletin ISB.57-57, dated February 25, 2000. This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from British Aerospace Regional Aircraft American Support, 13850 Mcclareen Road, Herndon, Virginia 20171. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

#### Effective Date

(g) This amendment becomes effective on September 10, 2001.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 25, 2001.

#### Vi L. Lipski,

Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 01-19254 Filed 8-3-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. 2001-NM-235-AD; Amendment 39-12361; AD 2001-15-26]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd., Model Astra SPX Series Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd., Model Astra SPX series airplanes. This action requires a one-time inspection to detect insufficient clearance on the electrical wire bundles routed next to the pilot and copilot air data reference and reversionary switching panels; and corrective action, if necessary. This action is necessary to prevent chafing of the electrical wire bundles, which could result in loss of flight-critical displays or system

functions, and potential fire. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Effective August 21, 2001.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of August 21, 2001.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before September 5, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket No. 2001-NM-235-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227-1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-iarcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain "Docket No. 2001-NM-235-AD" in the subject line and need not be submitted in triplicate. Comments sent via the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Galaxy Aerospace Corporation, One Galaxy Way, Fort Worth Alliance Airport, Fort Worth, Texas 76177. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tamra Elkins, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2669; fax (425) 227-1149.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Civil Aviation Administration of Israel (CAAI), which is the airworthiness authority for Israel, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd., Model Astra SPX series airplanes. The CAAI advises that inspection of some affected airplanes revealed insufficient clearance on the left and right electrical wire bundles routed next to the pilot and copilot air data reference and reversionary switching panels. This location is subject to frequent handling by mechanics. During ground inspection of an affected airplane, a chafed wire

bundle was discovered. Such chafing, if not corrected, could result in loss of flight-critical displays or system functions, and potential fire.

#### Explanation of Relevant Service Information

Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd., has issued Astra Alert Service Bulletin 1125-31A-236, dated April 16, 2001, which describes procedures for a one-time inspection to detect insufficient clearance on the left and right electrical bundles routed next to the pilot and copilot air data reference and reversionary switching panels. The alert service bulletin also describes procedures for installing additional clamping to electrical bundles that have insufficient clearance. Accomplishment of the actions specified in the alert service bulletin is intended to adequately address the identified unsafe condition. The CAAI classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued Israeli airworthiness directive 31-01-04-10, dated May 8, 2001, to ensure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in Israel.

#### FAA's Conclusions

This airplane model is manufactured in Israel and is type certificated for operation in the United States under the provisions of § 21.29 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.29) and the applicable bilateral airworthiness agreement. Pursuant to this bilateral airworthiness agreement, the CAAI has kept the FAA informed of the situation described above. The FAA has examined the findings of the CAAI, reviewed all available information, and determined that AD action is necessary for products of this type design that are certificated for operation in the United States.

#### Explanation of Requirements of Rule

Since an unsafe condition has been identified that is likely to exist or develop on other airplanes of the same type design registered in the United States, this AD is being issued to prevent chafing of the electrical wire bundles, which could result in loss of flight-critical displays or system functions, and potential fire. This AD requires accomplishment of the actions specified in the service bulletin described previously.

#### Determination of Rule's Effective Date

Since a situation exists that requires the immediate adoption of this regulation, it is found that notice and opportunity for prior public comment hereon are impracticable, and that good

cause exists for making this amendment effective in less than 30 days.

#### Comments Invited

Although this action is in the form of a final rule that involves requirements affecting flight safety and, thus, was not preceded by notice and an opportunity for public comment, comments are invited on this rule. Interested persons are invited to comment on this rule by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Communications shall identify the Rules Docket number and be submitted in triplicate to the address specified under the caption **ADDRESSES**. All communications received on or before the closing date for comments will be considered, and this rule may be amended in light of the comments received. Factual information that supports the commenter's ideas and suggestions is extremely helpful in evaluating the effectiveness of the AD action and determining whether additional rulemaking action would be needed.

Submit comments using the following format:

- Organize comments issue-by-issue. For example, discuss a request to change the compliance time and a request to change the service bulletin reference as two separate issues.
- For each issue, state what specific change to the AD is being requested.
- Include justification (e.g., reasons or data) for each request.

Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, economic, environmental, and energy aspects of the rule that might suggest a need to modify the rule. All comments submitted will be available, both before and after the closing date for comments, in the Rules Docket for examination by interested persons. A report that summarizes each FAA-public contact concerned with the substance of this AD will be filed in the Rules Docket.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments submitted in response to this rule must submit a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: "Comments to Docket 2001-NM-235-AD." The postcard will be date stamped and returned to the commenter.

#### Regulatory Impact

The regulations adopted herein will not have a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national Government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. Therefore, it is

determined that this final rule does not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132.

The FAA has determined that this regulation is an emergency regulation that must be issued immediately to correct an unsafe condition in aircraft, and that it is not a "significant regulatory action" under Executive Order 12866. It has been determined further that this action involves an emergency regulation under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034, February 26, 1979). If it is determined that this emergency regulation otherwise would be significant under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures, a final regulatory evaluation will be prepared and placed in the Rules Docket. A copy of it, if filed, may be obtained from the Rules Docket at the location provided under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

#### List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 39

Air transportation, Aircraft, Aviation safety, Incorporation by reference, Safety.

#### Adoption of the Amendment

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administration amends part 39 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 39) as follows:

#### PART 39—AIRWORTHINESS DIRECTIVES

1. The authority citation for part 39 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 49 U.S.C. 106(g), 40113, 44701.

#### § 39.13 [Amended]

2. Section 39.13 is amended by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

**2001-15-26 Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd:** Amendment 39-12361. Docket 2001-NM-235-AD.

*Applicability:* Model Astra SPX series airplanes, certificated in any category, serial numbers 073, 079 through 125 inclusive, and 127.

**Note 1:** This AD applies to each airplane identified in the preceding applicability provision, regardless of whether it has been modified, altered, or repaired in the area subject to the requirements of this AD. For airplanes that have been modified, altered, or repaired so that the performance of the requirements of this AD is affected, the owner/operator must request approval for an alternative method of compliance in accordance with paragraph (b) of this AD. The request should include an assessment of the effect of the modification, alteration, or repair on the unsafe condition addressed by this AD; and, if the unsafe condition has not

been eliminated, the request should include specific proposed actions to address it.

**Compliance:** Required as indicated, unless accomplished previously.

To prevent chafing of the electrical wire bundles, which could result in loss of flight-critical displays or system functions, and potential fire, accomplish the following:

#### Inspection

(a) Within 25 flight hours after the effective date of this AD, inspect the clearance between the electrical bundles and air data reference and reversionary switching panels, in accordance with Astra (Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd.) Alert Service Bulletin 1125-31A-236, dated April 16, 2001. If any clearance is less than 0.25 inch (6.35 mm): Prior to further flight, install additional clamping to the electrical wire bundles in accordance with the alert service bulletin.

#### Alternative Methods of Compliance

(b) An alternative method of compliance or adjustment of the compliance time that provides an acceptable level of safety may be used if approved by the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116, Transport Airplane Directorate, FAA. Operators shall submit their requests through an appropriate FAA Principal Maintenance Inspector, who may add comments and then send it to the Manager, International Branch, ANM-116.

**Note 2:** Information concerning the existence of approved alternative methods of compliance with this AD, if any, may be obtained from the International Branch, ANM-116.

#### Special Flight Permits

(c) Special flight permits may be issued in accordance with §§ 21.197 and 21.199 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR 21.197 and 21.199) to operate the airplane to a location where the requirements of this AD can be accomplished.

#### Incorporation by Reference

(d) The actions shall be done in accordance with Astra (Israel Aircraft Industries, Ltd.) Alert Service Bulletin 1125-31A-236, dated April 16, 2001. This incorporation by reference was approved by the Director of the Federal Register in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51. Copies may be obtained from Galaxy Aerospace Corporation, One Galaxy Way, Fort Worth Alliance Airport, Fort Worth, Texas 76177. Copies may be inspected at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

**Note 3:** The subject of this AD is addressed in Israeli airworthiness directive 31-01-04-10, dated May 8, 2001.

#### Effective Date

(e) This amendment becomes effective on August 21, 2001.

Issued in Renton, Washington, on July 26, 2001.

**Vi L. Lipski,**

*Manager, Transport Airplane Directorate, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 01-19255 Filed 8-3-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

**[Docket No. 2001-NM-136-AD; Amendment 39-12369; AD 2001-16-01]**

**RIN 2120-AA64**

#### **Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Model A330-301, -321, -322, -341, and -342 Series Airplanes, and Model A340 Series Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** This amendment adopts a new airworthiness directive (AD) that is applicable to certain Airbus Model A330-301, -321, -322, -341, and -342 series airplanes, and certain Model A340 series airplanes. This action requires repetitive inspections to detect cracking of the aft cargo compartment door, and corrective action if necessary. This action also provides for optional terminating action for the repetitive inspections. This action is necessary to detect and correct cracking of the aft cargo compartment door, which could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane. This action is intended to address the identified unsafe condition.

**DATES:** Effective August 21, 2001.

The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the regulations is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of August 21, 2001.

Comments for inclusion in the Rules Docket must be received on or before September 5, 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments in triplicate to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transport Airplane Directorate, ANM-114, Attention: Rules Docket 2001-NM-136-AD, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Comments may be inspected at this location between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments may be submitted via fax to (425) 227-1232. Comments may also be sent via the Internet using the following address: 9-anm-

iarcomment@faa.gov. Comments sent via fax or the Internet must contain "Docket No. 2001-NM-136-AD" in the subject line and need not be submitted in triplicate. Comments sent via the Internet as attached electronic files must be formatted in Microsoft Word 97 for Windows or ASCII text.

The service information referenced in this AD may be obtained from Airbus Industrie, 1 Rond Point Maurice Bellonte, 31707 Blagnac Cedex, France. This information may be examined at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington; or at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., suite 700, Washington, DC.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Rodina, Aerospace Engineer, International Branch, ANM-116, FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue, SW., Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone (425) 227-2125; fax (425) 227-1149.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Direction Générale de l'Aviation Civile (DGAC), which is the airworthiness authority for France, notified the FAA that an unsafe condition may exist on certain Airbus Model A330-301, -321, -322, -341, and -342 series airplanes, and certain Model A340 series airplanes. The DGAC advises that, during fatigue tests, cracking was found in several structural parts of the aft cargo compartment door. The cracking was detected between 42,944 and 67,605 simulated flights. This condition, if not corrected, could result in reduced structural integrity of the airplane.

#### **Explanation of Relevant Service Information**

Airbus has issued Service Bulletins A330-52-3043 (for Model A330 series airplanes) and A340-52-4053 (for Model A340 series airplanes), both dated March 2, 2001. The service bulletins describe procedures for repetitive detailed visual inspections to detect cracking of the aft cargo compartment door, and corrective action, if necessary. The DGAC classified this service bulletin as mandatory and issued French airworthiness directives 2001-126(B) and 2001-124(B), both dated April 4, 2001, to ensure the continued airworthiness of these airplanes in France.

Airbus has also issued Service Bulletins A330-52-3044 (for Model A330 series airplanes) and A340-52-4054 (for Model A340 series airplanes), both dated March 2, 2001. These service bulletins describe procedures to modify the aft cargo compartment door. The