

# Rules and Regulations

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

#### 14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2022-0801; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00092-T; Amendment 39-22159; AD 2022-18-08]

RIN 2120-AA64

#### Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Airbus SAS Model A350-941 and -1041 airplanes. This AD was prompted by a report indicating that the vertical stop support fitting (VSSF) of certain captain's, first officer's, and third occupant's seats could fail. This AD requires modifying or replacing each affected seat, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference. This AD also limits the installation of affected parts under certain conditions. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

**DATES:** This AD is effective October 18, 2022.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of October 18, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** For material incorporated by reference (IBR) in this AD, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu); website [easa.europa.eu](http://easa.europa.eu). You may find this IBR material on the EASA website

at [ad.easa.europa.eu](http://ad.easa.europa.eu). You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available in the AD docket at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2022-0801.

#### Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket at [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov) by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2022 0801; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, the mandatory continuing airworthiness information (MCAI), any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dan Rodina, Aerospace Engineer, Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198, telephone and fax 206-231-3225; email [dan.rodina@faa.gov](mailto:dan.rodina@faa.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2022-0014, dated January 25, 2022 (EASA AD 2022-0014) (also referred to as the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for all Airbus SAS Model A350-941 and -1041 airplanes.

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to all Airbus SAS Model A350-941 and -1041 airplanes. The NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on June 28, 2022 (87 FR 38302). The NPRM was prompted by a report indicating that the VSSF of certain captain's, first officer's, and third occupant's seats

could fail. The NPRM proposed to require modifying or replacing each affected seat, as specified in EASA AD 2022-0014. The NPRM also proposed to limit the installation of affected parts under certain conditions.

The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the VSSF, which could lead to flight deck seat failure and unexpected seat movement under certain loading conditions, possibly resulting in flightcrew injury and reduced control of the airplane. See the MCAI for additional background information.

#### Discussion of Final Airworthiness Directive

##### Comments

The FAA received two comments, one from an individual and one from The Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA). The commenters supported the NPRM without change.

##### Conclusion

The FAA reviewed the relevant data, considered the comments received, and determined that air safety requires adopting this AD as proposed. Except for minor editorial changes, this AD is adopted as proposed in the NPRM. None of the changes will increase the economic burden on any operator. Accordingly, the FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

#### Related Service Information Under 14 CFR Part 51

EASA AD 2022-0014 specifies procedures for modifying or replacing each affected captain's, first officer's, and third occupant's seat. EASA AD 2022-0014 also limits the installation of affected seats under certain conditions. This material is reasonably available because the interested parties have access to it through their normal course of business or by the means identified in the **ADDRESSES** section.

#### Costs of Compliance

The FAA estimates that this AD affects 27 airplanes of U.S. registry. The FAA estimates the following costs to comply with this AD:

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR REQUIRED ACTIONS

Labor cost	Parts cost	Cost per product	Cost on U.S. operators
Up to 23 work-hours × \$85 per hour = \$1,955 .....	* \$	* \$1,955	* \$52,785

\* The FAA has received no definitive data regarding parts costs for the seat modification or replacement.

According to the manufacturer, some or all of the costs of this AD may be covered under warranty, thereby reducing the cost impact on affected individuals. The FAA does not control warranty coverage for affected individuals. As a result, the FAA has included all known costs in the cost estimate.

**Authority for This Rulemaking**

Title 49 of the United States Code specifies the FAA’s authority to issue rules on aviation safety. Subtitle I, section 106, describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII: Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the Agency’s authority.

The FAA is issuing this rulemaking under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart III, Section 44701: General requirements. Under that section, Congress charges the FAA with promoting safe flight of civil aircraft in air commerce by prescribing regulations for practices, methods, and procedures the Administrator finds necessary for safety in air commerce. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it addresses an unsafe condition that is likely to exist or develop on products identified in this rulemaking action.

**Regulatory Findings**

This AD will not have federalism implications under Executive Order 13132. This AD 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.

For the reasons discussed above, I certify that this AD:

- (1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866,
- (2) Will not affect intrastate aviation in Alaska, and
- (3) Will not have a significant economic impact, positive or negative, on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

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

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

**The Amendment**

Accordingly, under the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the FAA amends 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. The FAA amends § 39.13 by adding the following new airworthiness directive:

**2022–18–08 Airbus SAS:** Amendment 39–22159; Docket No. FAA–2022–0801; Project Identifier MCAI–2022–00092–T.

**(a) Effective Date**

This airworthiness directive (AD) is effective October 18, 2022.

**(b) Affected ADs**

None.

**(c) Applicability**

This AD applies to all Airbus SAS Model A350–941 and –1041 airplanes, certificated in any category.

**(d) Subject**

Air Transport Association (ATA) of America Code 25, Equipment/furnishings.

**(e) Unsafe Condition**

This AD was prompted by a report indicating that the vertical stop support fitting (VSSF) of certain captain’s, first officer’s, and third occupant’s seats could fail. The FAA is issuing this AD to address failure of the VSSF, which could lead to flight deck seat failure and unexpected seat movement under certain loading conditions, possibly resulting in flightcrew injury and reduced control of the airplane.

**(f) Compliance**

Comply with this AD within the compliance times specified, unless already done.

**(g) Requirements**

Except as specified in paragraphs (h) and (i) of this AD: Comply with all required actions and compliance times specified in, and in accordance with, European Union

Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022–0014, dated January 25, 2022 (EASA AD 2022–0014).

**(h) Exceptions to EASA AD 2022–0014**

(1) Where EASA AD 2022–0014 refers to its effective date, this AD requires using the effective date of this AD.

(2) The “Remarks” section of EASA AD 2022–0014 does not apply to this AD.

**(i) No Reporting Requirement**

Although the service information referenced in EASA AD 2022–0014 specifies to submit certain information to the manufacturer, this AD does not include that requirement.

**(j) Additional AD Provisions**

The following provisions also apply to this AD:

(1) *Alternative Methods of Compliance (AMOCs):* The Manager, Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA, has the authority to approve AMOCs for this AD, if requested using the procedures found in 14 CFR 39.19. In accordance with 14 CFR 39.19, send your request to your principal inspector or responsible Flight Standards Office, as appropriate. If sending information directly to the Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, send it to the attention of the person identified in paragraph (k) of this AD. Information may be emailed to: 9-AVS-AIR-730-AMOC@faa.gov. Before using any approved AMOC, notify your appropriate principal inspector, or lacking a principal inspector, the manager of the responsible Flight Standards Office.

(2) *Contacting the Manufacturer:* For any requirement in this AD to obtain instructions from a manufacturer, the instructions must be accomplished using a method approved by the Manager, Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA; or EASA; or Airbus SAS’s EASA Design Organization Approval (DOA). If approved by the DOA, the approval must include the DOA-authorized signature.

(3) *Required for Compliance (RC):* Except as required by paragraph (j)(2) of this AD, if any service information contains procedures or tests that are identified as RC, those procedures and tests must be done to comply with this AD; any procedures or tests that are not identified as RC are recommended. Those procedures and tests that are not identified as RC may be deviated from using accepted methods in accordance with the operator’s maintenance or inspection program without obtaining approval of an AMOC, provided the procedures and tests identified as RC can be done and the airplane can be put back in an airworthy condition. Any substitutions or changes to procedures or tests identified as RC require approval of an AMOC.

**(k) Related Information**

For more information about this AD, contact Dan Rodina, Aerospace Engineer, Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA, 2200 South 216th Street, Des Moines, WA 98198, telephone and fax 206-231-3225; email [dan.rodina@faa.gov](mailto:dan.rodina@faa.gov).

**(l) Material Incorporated by Reference**

(1) The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of the service information listed in this paragraph under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 1 CFR part 51.

(2) You must use this service information as applicable to do the actions required by this AD, unless this AD specifies otherwise.

(i) European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD 2022-0014, dated January 25, 2022.

(ii) [Reserved]

(3) For EASA AD 2022-0014, contact EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email [ADs@easa.europa.eu](mailto:ADs@easa.europa.eu); website [easa.europa.eu](http://easa.europa.eu). You may find this EASA AD on the EASA website at [ad.easa.europa.eu](http://ad.easa.europa.eu).

(4) You may view this material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195.

(5) You may view this material that is incorporated by reference at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, email [fr.inspection@nara.gov](mailto:fr.inspection@nara.gov), or go to: [archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html](http://archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html).

Issued on August 19, 2022.

**Christina Underwood,**

*Acting Director, Compliance & Airworthiness Division, Aircraft Certification Service.*

[FR Doc. 2022-19746 Filed 9-12-22; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-13-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Food and Drug Administration**

**21 CFR Parts 20 and 720**

**[Docket No. FDA-2018-N-1622]**

**RIN 0910-AH69**

**Public Information**

**AGENCY:** Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA, Agency, or we) is issuing a final rule amending its public information regulations. The final rule revises the current regulations to incorporate changes made to the

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) by the Openness Promotes Effectiveness in our National Government Act of 2007 (OPEN Government Act) and the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 (FOIA Improvement Act). Additionally, the final rule updates the current regulations to reflect changes to the organizational structure of FDA, to make the FOIA process easier for the public to navigate, and to make provisions clearer.

**DATES:** This rule is effective October 13, 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and insert the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this final rule into the “Search” box and follow the prompts, and/or go to the Dockets Management Staff, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852, 240-402-7500.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sarah B. Kotler, Office of the Commissioner, Office of the Executive Secretariat, Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1050, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-796-1900, [FDAAFOIA@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:FDAAFOIA@fda.hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

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**I. Executive Summary**

*A. Purpose of the Final Rule*

FDA is issuing this final rule to amend FDA’s public information regulations. The regulations are being amended to incorporate changes made to the FOIA by the OPEN Government Act and the FOIA Improvement Act. Additionally, the final rule updates the regulations to reflect changes to the

organizational structure of FDA, makes the FOIA process easier for the public to navigate, and makes certain provisions clearer. Taken together, these changes enhance transparency for the public about FDA activities.

*B. Summary of the Major Provisions of the Final Rule*

The amendments to FDA’s public information regulations bring the Agency’s regulations in line with statutory amendments to the FOIA, update cross references to other statutes and parts of the Agency’s regulations, and clarify certain provisions with minor editorial updates.

*C. Legal Authority*

These amendments to FDA’s public information regulations are based on our authority under the FOIA and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act). These amendments allow FDA to more efficiently use its resources to provide information to the public.

*D. Costs and Benefits*

Although FDA is currently implementing the requirements of the OPEN Government Act and the FOIA Improvement Act in FOIA processing as standard practice, the requirements are not currently reflected in FDA regulations. The revisions made by this final rule are intended to incorporate all current FOIA requirements into the existing regulations. Because the Agency has already adopted many of these requirements, we anticipate no additional costs or benefits from this final rule.

**II. Table of Abbreviations and Acronyms Commonly Used in This Document**

Abbreviation/ Acronym	What it means
FOIA .....	Freedom of Information Act.
FOIA Improve- ment Act.	FOIA Improvement Act of 2016.
OGIS .....	Office of Government Infor- mation Services.
OPEN Gov- ernment Act.	Openness Promotes Effec- tiveness in our National Government Act of 2007.

**III. Background**

The FOIA (5 U.S.C. 552) is a law that gives the public the right to access information from the Federal Government. There is a presumption that government records must be released under the FOIA unless they are subject to one of nine FOIA exemptions. FDA’s regulations for the implementation of the FOIA are in part 20 of title 21 of the Code of Federal