



EASA Safety Information Bulletin

SIB No.: 2010-27
Issued: 10 September 2010

Subject: Airbus A318/A319/A320/A321 – Evacuation Systems - Coupling Pin Verification

Ref. Publication: AIRCRUISER VSB 004-25-50 Revision 2 dated 08 Sept.2008
 AIRCRUISER VSB 004-25-82 initial issue dated 31 July 2008
 Airbus AMM 25-62-44 (latest revision)
 Airbus AMM 25-62-46 (latest revision)
 Airbus OIT SE 999.0069/08/BB.

Introduction: Airbus received two reports of unsuccessful deployments of slides, where the root cause for both incidents was identified to be a missing coupling pin in the reservoir and valve assembly. The coupling pin physically connects the pulley and the shaft of the valve and transfers the rotation of the valve pulley into the valve shaft to which the valve ball is attached. Rotation of the valve ball releases the gas pressure of the reservoir into the hose(s) and subsequently inflates the slide. The only possibility for an evacuation system to be in a configuration with a missing coupling pin is to have received a modified valve pulley per embodiment of Air Cruisers Vendor Service Bulletin (VSB) 004-25-50 initial issue or Revision 1. During embodiment of initial issue or Revision 1 of this VSB, the reinstallation of the coupling pin into the new pulley assembly after being removed from the obsolete valve pulley could have been omitted. A missing coupling pin within the valve assembly would not allow release of the pressure into the associated hose(s). The consequence being, that no slide inflation can occur, either in automatic or in manual mode.

Recommendation: The purpose of this SIB is to make operators and maintenance organizations aware that the accomplishment instructions of VSB 004-25-50 Revision 2 have been rephrased to prevent such an omission. This recommended VSB is applicable to all slide reservoirs installed on the A320 Family with the exception of the A321 doors 2 and 3 slide reservoirs. Furthermore, it is recommended the accomplishment of Air Cruisers VSB 004-25-82, so that the correct installation of the pulley coupling pin can be verified at the earliest maintenance opportunity in any evacuation system that has embodied Air

Cruisers VSB 004-25-50 at initial issue or Revision 1 since the last overhaul of the reservoirs.

Air Cruisers VSB 004-25-82 was released to inspect the valves and to ensure installation of the coupling pin on all units that have been subject to Air Cruisers VSB 004-25-50 over the past three years.

It is considered that every unit which may have been subject to the Service Bulletin prior to this timeframe would have already come in for maintenance where conforming valve function would have been verified (either by inflating the unit or by regular reservoir maintenance).

Corresponding inspection procedures for each type of slides or slide/rafts are given through the VSB 004-25-82. The inspection does not require an unpacking/repacking of door slides and slide/rafts but only requires removing of the unit from the door. Please refer to the Airbus AMM procedures (ref. AMM 25-62-44) for details and cautions.

For remotely installed reservoirs of the off wing slide, no removal is required; the inspection can be made in the installed configuration. Please refer to Airbus AMM 25-62-46 for details on access and cautions.

Applicability: Airbus A318, A319, A320 and A321 aeroplanes.

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