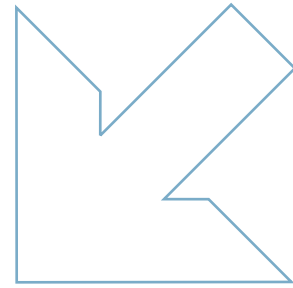




# Rudder Pedal Jam



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## 1 | Introduction

In 1998, two A340 operators reported that when performing a rudder travel check, pedal displacement was found to be rough. Investigation evidenced that pens were stuck in the rudder pedal mechanism. These objects had fallen down from the cockpit through the cutouts of the cockpit pedals assembly covers. This led Airbus to develop a device to prevent such occurrences on the A330/340 and A320 family of aircraft.

In view of the remaining number of aircraft flying without this modification, it seems worthwhile to remind operators about the existing modifications.

## 2 | Original rudder pedal protective cover

The original cockpit pedals assembly covers presented a 5 cm open gap, to allow free movement of the rod connecting the pedal to the brake mechanism.

This unprotected gap let objects like pens or calculators slip into the braking mechanism.



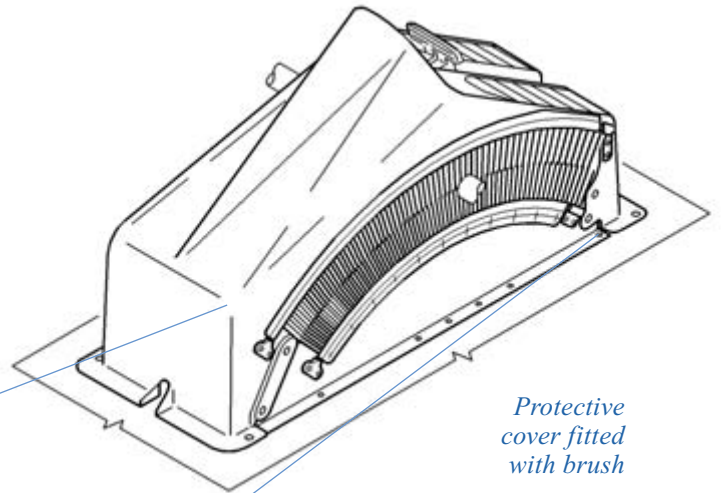
*Protective cover  
with no brush*

### 3 | Modified rudder pedal cover

The first events were reported on A340 aircraft and new pedal covers with brush were developed for the A330/340 family. Due to similarity in design, a similar cover was introduced on the A320 family as well.



*Detail of brush*



*Protective cover fitted with brush*

### 4 | New case reported

Recently one operator reported an event on an A320 aircraft.

The report indicates that, during preflight, the rudder pedal felt jammed. Investigations showed this was again due to a foreign object located into the pedal mechanism. The aircraft was pre-mod and the service bulletin was not embodied.

### 5 | Conclusion

Following this latest event and in order to prevent objects from falling into the pedal mechanism, Airbus would like to promote the following modifications:

#### **A330**

Modification n° 47292 fitted in production on aircraft models A330-200 from MSN 0339 and on models -300 from MSN 0342

Service bulletin n° 27-3074

#### **A340**

Modification n° 47292 fitted in production from MSN 0335

Service bulletin n° 27-4080

#### **A318**

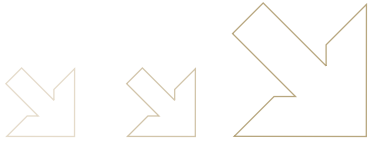
Fitted on all aircraft

#### **A319/320/321**

Modification n° 28555 fitted in production from MSN 1344/1334/1356 respectively

Service bulletin n° 27-1131

The title of SB 27-1131, which is currently "Rudder mechanical control introduce modified rudder pedal mechanism assembly" will be changed to a more precise title "Introduce a means to prevent foreign object falling in rudder pedal mechanism assembly", and an OIT will be issued to inform operators.



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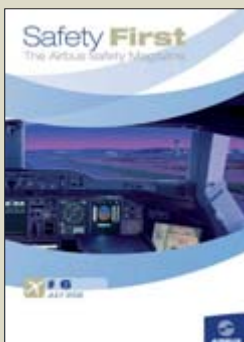
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