



Civil Aeronautics administration

Aviation Safety Bulletin

ASB No: 92-042/M

DEC., 2003

Subject : An Airbus A321 aircraft experienced the nose wheel steering control failure after landing.

Background :

1. An Airbus A321 aircraft experienced the nose wheel steering control failure after landing. The maintenance crew found the incident was caused by the damage of NLG torque link apex pin.
2. The operator has completed the installation of new improved type of Apex Pins on seven A321/A320 aircrafts in accordance with SB A320-32-1173.
3. Airbus Industry has issued a recommended service bulletin (SB A320-32-1252) to operator, whom are required to do a one time special detecting inspection of NLG torque link apex pin installed on A321/A320 aircraft.

Recommendation :

1. Issue an Engineering Order to label the steering-angle limitation in aircraft towing or pushback so as to prevent miss handling during operations.
2. When evaluating Service Bulletin, operator should consider both the aircraft maintenance history and the effectiveness of SB concerning flight safety, then prioritize evaluation and performance of SB accordingly.
3. A Non Destructive Inspection should be carried out to A320/321 Fleet Apex Pins in accordance with Service Bulletin.
4. The torque values and, measuring dimension values--- etc., should be recorded on task cards by mechanics when each task is accomplished.