



Civil Aeronautics Administration

Aviation Safety Bulletin

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TITLE : Enhance airline maintenance procedures and personnel training after a recent air turn back due to main landing gear shortening mechanism adjustable link fracture.

DESCRIPTION :

The flight crew of a B-registered Airbus Airplane found that the main landing gear could not be retreated after takeoff and decided to make an air turn back. Inspection reveals the right side main landing gear shortening mechanism adjustable link fractured. Subsequent investigation identifies the cause of fracture is the failure of the sealant between the main landing gear shortening mechanism and the connecting link. The broken sealant could not block the moisture infiltration causing the shortening mechanism adjustable link corroded and subsequently fractured due to operating loads.

SUGGESTION AND ACTION :

The airlines should, besides strictly require their personnel to perform maintenance tasks in accordance with task procedures, apply the accumulated maintenance experience into the training systems to ensure smooth maintenance operations, and mitigate the problems before occurrence to prevent flight events affecting operations. Hence, the operators are advised to follow the following actions:

1. Educate the maintenance personnel the importance of seal integrity checkup to enhance the inspection ability and recognition skills of various seals.
2. Human factor should adequately be taken into consideration when creating task cards to avoid future defects caused by human errors..