Dry Wash Cleaning

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Purpose of this Article:

AIRBUS recommendations on dry cleaning/wash for external paint.

⊻Engineering Support

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Manufacturer:		

Applicability:

A300 A320 family A330 A340 A350

A380

References:

PMS 02-10-02 AIMS 09-00-002 AMM 12-21-11 external cleaning



Background:

Airlines frequently request Airbus to approve dry wash cleaning of external painted surfaces.

Description:

There is no AMM task about dry wash cleaning.

Solution / Recommendation:

Airbus has developed a material specification AIMS 09-00-002 (Evaluation of Maintenance Materials), which will allow a minimum of local testing for side effects of cleaning compounds on the aircraft structure and protection.

Compliance with AIMS 09-00-002 (Evaluation of Maintenance Materials) will make sure that a consumable material will not degrade or damage the external painted surfaces, when the material is used properly i.e. following manufacturer's instructions and AMM task 12-21-11 external cleaning.

Please note that dry wash cleaning may leave residues such as silicone for which long term durability effect as well as the consequence on stripping are not known.

Furthermore in case of micro scratching of the paint due to the dry wash cleaning, without a sealer, the paint may pick up dust more easily.

Therefore Airbus is not in position to recommend dry or waterless cleaning procedure.

However this is an acceptable practice on Airbus A/C, providing AMM task 12-21-11 cleaning procedure is followed. Please note that this is under the responsibility of the operator, as are the products used.

Additional Note:

AIMS 09-00-002 is available in PMS 02-10-02.

Survey for the Engineering Support section

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