#### NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety Aviation Engineering Division Washington, DC 20594

December 5, 2003

#### ADDENDUM NUMBER 3 TO THE STRUCTURES GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT

#### DCA02MA001

#### A. ACCIDENT

Location:	Belle Harbor, NY
Date:	November 12, 2001
Time:	09:16:14 EST
Aircraft:	American Airlines Flight 587, Airbus Model A300-605R, N14053
	Manufactures Serial Number (MSN) 420

#### B. STRUCTURES GROUP

Chairman: Brian K Murphy National Transportation Safety Board Washington, DC

#### C. AIRBUS REPORT

1. "AAL587 Airbus Structure Investigation, Accident Analysis – FEM RHS local rear lug model"

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Report Nr	·.:	TN – ESGC	c — 1018/03		
Autho Department	r: L:				
Titl	le		AAL58	7 Airbus Structure Investig	jation
		A	ccident Ana	alysis - FEM RHS local rea	r lug model
Date	<sup>e:</sup> 08.1	2.2003			
Summar	y:				
Public Docket	globa tachr Addit resul cond	al 2D model. Thi nent loads for fr tionally, it becon ts (displacemen itions for the not	is allows to inve ront, center and nes possible to it) from the 2D nlinear contact	estigate the influence of this very of rear lug. get a full 3D state of stress in the analysis with both embedded 3D analysis.	detailed idealization on the at- lug around the pin hole. The lugs were used as boundary
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## 1. Introduction

At the RHS and LHS rear fin box attachments to the fuselage the 3D models were embedded in the global 2D model. This allows to investigate the influence of this very detailed idealization on the attachment loads for front, center and rear lug. Additionally, it becomes possible to get a full 3D state of stress in the lug around the pin hole. The results (displacements) from the 2D analysis with both embedded 3D lugs were used as boundary conditions for the nonlinear contact analysis.



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## 2. General VTP overview and the RHS rear main lug FEA model

Figure 2.1 shows the vertical stabilizer with the 3D RHS rear main lug FEA model.





## 2.1.1 Skin panel

Figure 2.4 shows the skin panel section of the rear main lug from rear spar to stringer P5 and rib 1 to rib 4 which was modelled in the 3D rear main lug model. Figure 2.5 is a cross section through the skin panel and shows the principle build up of skin and stringer.







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## 3. 2D RHS rear main fitting area FE-Idealization in the global analysis model

Detailed information about the 2D global NASTRAN (see figure 3.1) model is given in the report " *AAL587 Airbus Structure Investigation - Accident Analysis – FEM Global model VTP & Rudder*" TN – ESGC – 1017/03.



Figure 3.1

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## 3.1 3D rear lug FEA model

The complete model (see figures 3.2 to 3.4) was developed in ANSYS and converted from the ANSYS FE-code into the NASTRAN FE-code. In order to take into account contact surface capabilities of ANSYS, all the nonlinear contact analyses are done with ANSYS.



#### **Components of the FE-model**

The 3D RHS rear main lug model (see figure 3.5) consists of the following components:

- 3D CFRP solid lug
- Skin panel with Stringer (rib 1 to rib4 and rear spar to stringer P6)
- Rear Spar (portion of the rear spar and cut out at the VTP mid plane)
- Rib 1 (portion of the rib1 and cut out at the VTP mid plane)

and the fuselage clevis part which protrudes the fuselage surface.

The inner and outer fitting part including the skin area was modeled with solid elements. The remaining structure of the model is idealized with shell elements.



## 3.2 Global NASTRAN 2D VTP model with embedded LHS & RHS rear main fitting models

The 3D solid lug model (see figure 3.6 to 3.11) was embedded into the 2D global NASTRAN model. To embed the RHS & LHS rear main attachment fitting the RHS model was mirrored.





## 3.3 RBE2 interface elements between 2D and 3D model mesh

The fine mesh of the embedded 3D rear main fitting model is connected to the coarse mesh of the global 2D NASTRAN model (see figure 3.12 and 3.13). For the connection RBE2-Elements were used. The independent node of the coarse 2D mesh was connected to the nearest nodes of the 3D model mesh.





## 3.5 Lug reaction force & moment calculation in NASTRAN [linear static]

To calculate the main fitting reaction forces & moments the grid point force balance for the clevis to fuselage interface are used (see figure 3.17 and 3.18).



## 3.6 NASTRAN bolt bonding conditions Cond I & II [linear static]

In the first step of the NASTRAN analysis procedure the bolt for each, the LHS & RHS, 3D embedded model are completely (360°) bonded. With the so called bonding condition *Cond I* the angle of the resultant main fitting force relative to rib 1 (see figure 3.19) was calculated.

Table 3.1

	Cond I	Cond II *)
Fuselage clevis to bolt	360°	180°
Bolt to bushing	360°	180°
Bushing to CFRP lug	360°	180°

\*) connection angle perpendicular to the resultant force direction



In the second NASTRAN analysis step the bolt is only bonded over 180°-degree corresponding to the Fres direction. Due to the tension and compression area of the connection different nodes have to be bonded. The figure 3.20 on the next page shows the necessary bonding procedure exemplary for a tension force at the rear main lug.

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The 180°-degree bonding is the best approach to model the contact situation. Taking into account this bonding configuration, called *Cond II*, the boundary displacement conditions for the ANSYS model and the local lug reactions are recalculated.



# 4. Results of the global model with embedded LHS & RHS 3D rear main fittings [NASTRAN / linear static]

## 4.1 Fin deformation under W375 accident loading condition

The max. fin deformation (see figure 4.1) with the embedded solid models (628mm at the rudder trailing edge) is nearly the same compared to the global 2D model (624mm).





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## 4.2 Fitting forces of W375 bonding Cond / [NASTRAN / linear static]

Rudder deflection angle[°]-11,47

Table 4.1 Main Fitting Reaction Forces

Embedded 3D rear main lug

L

T

					•	
	Front [N]		Cent	tre [N]	Rear [N]	
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS
Fx	263250	-277060	253114	-262495	420334	-396038
Fy	8926	9319	30530	30991	50474	43419
Fz	316225	-333185	699577	-700541	885281	-849752
Fres	411556	433430	744585	748746	981301	938515
Mx [Nm]	-3620	-3738	-9949	-10086	-9192	-8273
Mz [Nm]	116	86	1578	1426	2212	2550
angle [°]	50	50	70	69	65	65



### Table 4.2 Lateral Load Yokes Reaction Forces

	Fron	Front [N]		re [N]	Rear [N]	
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS
Fx	-1404	1332	-1229	1134	-8616	9387
Fy	18894	17934	16797	15510	70787	77127
Fz	-1598	1517	-1872	1728	-13146	14324
Fres	19013	18047	16946	15647	72511	79005



Bonding conditions Cond I & II are described in chapter 3.6.

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## 4.3 Fitting forces of W375 bonding Cond II [NASTRAN / linear static]

Rudder deflection angle[°]-11,47

Table 4.3 Main Fitting Reaction Forces

Embedded 3D rear main lug

T

L

					•	•
	Front [N]		Cent	Centre [N]		ar [N]
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS
Fx	267186	-281946	257989	-274238	413562	-392218
Fy	9174	9463	31200	31897	49859	37726
Fz	321498	-336976	710085	-715335	871777	-845717
Fres	418131	439472	756143	766765	966186	933003
Mx [Nm]	-3677	-3790	-10116	-10309	-9135	-7368
Mz [Nm]	124	91	1632	1471	2108	1539
angle [°]	50	50	70	69	65	65



### Table 4.4 Lateral Load Yokes Reaction Forces

	Front [N]		Cent	re [N]	Rear [N]	
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS
Fx	-1390	1319	-1251	1193	-9637	9900
Fy	18708	17752	17101	16310	79177	81335
Fz	-1582	1501	-1905	1817	-14704	15105
Fres	18826	17864	17252	16454	81106	83316



Bonding conditions Cond I & II are described in chapter 3.6.

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# 4.4 Comparison of NASTRAN RHS rear main fitting forces [absolute values / linear static]

The 180°-degree bonding (as described in chapter 3.6) is the best approach to model the contact situation. Regarding the forces the bonding condition (see diagram 4.1) has the most influence on the lateral force Fy, which decrease about 20%. In the main directions Fx and Fz the decrease of load was negligible. The influence of the bonding condition on the local lug moments (see diagram 4.2) leads to a decrease of 40% to 60% and corresponds better with the ANSYS nonlinear contact analysis.



#### **RHS Rear Main Fitting Forces**



#### **RHS Rear Main Fitting Moment**



■ 2D Shell Fitting ■ 3D Solid Fitting 360° bonded ■ 3D Solid Fitting 180° bonded

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Diagram 4.2



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## 4.6 Rear main fitting forces for design gust case BI17 [NASTRAN / linear static / Cond II / scaled to full scale test Fres level]

The full scale rupture test in 1986 was performed with the design gust loading condition and a structural temperature of 70°C ( $\Delta$ T=+50K).

The structure failed at the RHS rear main lug under tension load.

The tension load vector at the rear main fitting at failure was:

Component		Force			
Fx	[kN]	-289			
Fy	[kN]	-38			
Fz	[kN]	-854.8			
Fres	[kN]	902.34			

The analysis of the global model with the embedded rear lugs gives the following attachment forces on the tension side (no temperature effect):

I able 4.6		
Component		Force
Fx	[kN]	-171
Fy	[kN]	19
Fz	[kN]	-424
Fres	[kN]	458

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Table 16

Table 4.5

Considering the 50K temperature differential and a limit load factor of 2 on the gust case BI17 the RHS rear main fitting force results in:

Table	4.	7
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Component		Force
Fx	[kN]	-281
Fy	[kN]	37
Fz	[kN]	-853
Fres	[kN]	899

#### Bonding Condition Cond II

#### Table 4.8 Main Fitting Reaction Forces

### Embedded 3D rear main lug

T

T

					•	· · · ·
	Front [N]		Cent	re [N]	Rear [N]	
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS
Fx	215000	-326000	218000	-235000	405855	-281334
Fy	10900	16400	26600	38700	38321	36805
Fz	367000	-373000	744000	-728000	838975	-853287
Fres	425480	495655	775737	765968	932773	899223
Mx [Nm]	-3840	-4700	-10400	-10900	-8080	-8120
Mz [Nm]	230	-53	1540	1250	1671	1557
angle [°]	60	49	74	72	64	72



Figure 4.10

#### Table 4.9 Lateral Load Yokes Reaction Forces

	Front [N]		Cent	re [N]	Rear [N]		
	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	LHS	RHS	
Fx	-2520	2830	-1750	2420	-5100	8180	
Fy	33900	38100	24000	33100	41900	67200	
Fz	-2870	3220	-2670	3690	-7780	12500	
Fres	34114	38340	24211	33393	42920	68840	



## 5. Boundary displacements for ANSYS RHS contact 3D model

The global NASTRAN 2D model with the embedded LHS & RHS 3D models was analyzed with accident loading W375 and delivers the displacement boundary conditions for the RHS ANSYS contact 3D model and a set of main fitting forces (see figure 5.1).



During the model development process several comparisons were made between the NASTRAN and the ANSYS model to validate that under the same analysis conditions the results are within acceptable tolerances. A linear static analysis was performed with the same bonded lug and boundary displacement conditions. The result of the main fit-ting forces of both models were in agreement.

In the next step the RHS ANSYS contact 3D model was loaded with these displacement boundary conditions.

The performed ANSYS FE-Analysis is a geometric nonlinear contact analysis. The displacements were applied in several steps. For each step the local fitting reactions are calculated.

The resulting main fitting force of the RHS ANSYS nonlinear contact analysis under W375 loading conditions was Fres=856kN. This indicates as expected, that the contact model has a lower stiffness than the embedded 3D model with partially bonded pin.

The Airbus approach is to scale the ANSYS resultant force to the level of the NASTRAN resultant vector. (See report "*AAL587 Airbus Structure Investigation – FEM Global to Local analysis details*" TN – ESGC – 1019/03).

## Scale factor for the boundary displacements

 $Scale_{RHS} = \frac{Fres W375 MOD}{Fres RHS ANSYS Contact} = \frac{933kN}{856kN} = 1,09$ 

For the comparison with the NASA W375 MOD load vector, the boundary displacement conditions were scaled up with a factor of 1.09. It is valid to scale the displacements, because the global deformation of the VTP follows a linear behavior. The ANSYS RHS contact analysis, with the scaled up boundary displacement set, results in a main fitting resultant force of Fres=936kN.



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## 6. ANSYS RHS 3D model

The figure 6.1 and 6.2 show the RHS 3D nonlinear contact model, which was used for the detailed lug reaction and strain distribution analysis.



## 6.1 ANSYS Contact surface definition

The contact surface definitions are the same for all ANSYS models (see figure 6.3 to 6.6). The ANSYS contact surface allows physically opening and closing gaps between the meshes of the contact borders with a friction coefficient of 0.3.



## 6.2 Lug reaction force & moment calculation in ANSYS [nonlinear contact]

The local lug reactions are calculated in the ANSYS model for every load step. At a defined cut through the fuselage clevis (see figure 6.7) the summation of the grid point force balance in this cut gives the local lug reaction including respective forces & moments. Also the deformation of the complete bolt area is taken into account for this procedure.





## 6.3 ANSYS method to calculate the Rx bolt rotation relative to the displaced rib 1

The figure 6.9 describes the ANSYS method for the calculation of bolt displacements and rotation relative to rib 1.



## 7. ANSYS results

## 7.1 RHS ANSYS contact 3D model W375 [scaled on NASTRAN Fres level]

## 7.1.1 RHS rear main local lug forces & moments

#### Table 7.1

Fx	Fy	Fz	Fres	Mx	Mz	Rx	Rz
[kN]	[kN]	[kN]	[kN]	[Nm]	[Nm]	[°]	[°]
0	0	2	2	4	8	0	0
-63	5	-132	146	-1015	187	-0,073	0,014
-124	11	-264	292	-2042	372	-0,146	0,029
-186	18	-403	444	-3150	566	-0,219	0,044
-250	25	-548	602	-4319	747	-0,292	0,059
-315	33	-698	766	-5542	908	-0,365	0,074
-381	42	-853	936	-6807	1051	-0,438	0,089

Rx/Rz bolt rotation in relation to rib 1

## 7.1.2 Deformation & bolt Rx rotation

The cross section through the CFRP lug, the bolt and the fuselage fitting illustrates the connection bolt contact situation under max. applied loading condition. The color scale is von Mises equivalent stress distribution.















## 7.2 RHS ANSYS contact 3D model design lateral gust BI17 [scaled to full scale test Fres level]

### 7.2.1 RHS rear main local lug forces & moments

Table 7.2

Fx	Fy	Fz	Fres	Mx	Mz	Rx	Rz
[kN]	[kN]	[kN]	[kN]	[Nm]	[Nm]	[°]	[°]
0	0	2	2	4	8	0	0
-52	4	-131	140	-925	198	-0,067	0,01
-100	7	-263	281	-1809	402	-0,134	0,021
-150	12	-400	428	-2727	624	-0,201	0,031
-201	17	-544	580	-3652	841	-0,269	0,042
-253	22	-694	739	-4574	1048	-0,337	0,053
-305	28	-849	902	-5482	1249	-0,405	0,064

Rx/Rz bolt rotation in relation to rib 1

## 7.2.2 Deformation & bolt Rx rotation

The cross section through the CFRP lug, the bolt and the fuselage fitting illustrates the connection bolt contact situation under max. applied loading condition. The color scale is von Mises equivalent stress distribution.



### **Bolt Rx rotation**











## TN – ESGC – 1018/03 Accident analysis - FEM RHS local rear lug model 47/50 ANSYS 7.1 NOV 6 2003 18:2208 PLOT NO. 1 NODAL SOLUTION STEP=7 EPTOXY (AVG) RSYS=21 PowerGraphics EFACET=1 AVRES=Mat DMX =528E+08 SMM =-20759 SMM =-20759 SMM =-20759 SMM =-20759 SMM =-2000 - 17800 - 17800 - 17800 - 16400 - 1600 - 10800 - 3800 - 4000 - 3800 - 2400 - 400 - 400 - 400 - 7400 Strain γ<sub>xy</sub> **FWD FWD** Fres=902kN [micro strain] [με] RHS model Min. -20759 Max. 18565 10200 11600 13000 14400 15800 17200 20000 Figure 7.23 ANSYS 7.1 NOV 6 2003 18:3206 PLOT NO, 1 NODAL SOLUTION STEP=7 SUB =1 TIME-7 EPTOY (AVG) RSYS=111 PowerGraphics EFACET=1 AVRES=Mat DMX =528E+08 SMX =13298 -3300 -700 [ $\mu$ E] -700 [ $\mu$ E] -700 [ $\mu$ E] -500 100 2500 3100 3700 4300 4300 4300 5700 3 Strain tangential Strain<sub>tangential</sub> Cylinder coordinate system in the bolt axis Min. -4335 Max. 13298 9100 9700 10300 10900 11500 12100 12700 13300 14500 Figure 7.24 All views from outboard Strain distribution in material coordinate system 2 3 Issue 1 10.11.2003 02.12.2003 08.12.2003 Date

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### 8. Strain gauge comparison BI17 [scaled] and W375 around the lug

To enable a comparison of the BI17 [scaled] and the W375 strain distribution around the lug the same strain gauge arrangement as for the Lug Test#1 specimen was chosen. For a detailed comparison only the unidirectional strain gauges E01-E09 and the rosettes R10-R18 on both sides of the lug were selected. The discussion of the results was carried out only with the highest loaded strain gauges (see figure 8.1). These gauges are marked red in the strain gauge figure below.



Strain Gauge locations around the lug area for the BI17 and W375 comparison





Diagram 8.2 Rosette R13o (outboard)



## 9. Summary

A local fine mesh 3D FEA model has been created for the rear main lug area by AN-SYS and translated to NASTRAN. This model has been inserted as the RHS & LHS (mirror image) into of the 2D global Vertical Stabilizer model.

The comparison with the pure 2D model revealed that the change of the attachment load distribution between front, center and rear lug is negligible, but the bending moment is reduced significantly. The displacements at the interface of the embedded RHS 3D rear lug model and the displacement of the fuselage clevis was used to perform a nonlinear contact analysis with ANSYS. Due to the contact behavior the lug bending moment was reduced further.

As expected, the analysis with displacement boundary conditions results in a further reduction of the bending moment and 9% percent lower attachment force resultant. The chosen approach to scale the results to the linear NASTRAN resultant force W375 gives a bending moment Mx which is 8% lower than the value of the linear NASTRAN analysis with 180° bonded pin.

In addition the design gust load case BI17 was analyzed up to the Fres level of the full scale test rupture value. It is shown that the strain level around the right hand side rear pin hole is nearly identical to the strain level of the W375 load case.



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