NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Office of Aviation Safety Aviation Engineering Division Washington, DC 20594

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ADDENDUM NUMBER 6 TO THE STRUCTURES GROUP CHAIRMAN'S FACTUAL REPORT

DCA02MA001

A. ACCIDENT

B. STRUCTURES GROUP

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C. AIRBUS REPORT

1. "AAL587 Airbus Structure Investigation, Lug sub-component test #1 – Results Test/FEA Comparison"

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1. Introduction

As part of the AAL587 accident investigation the rear main Lug Test#1 was carried out under the leadership of the NTSB at the Airbus Deutschland GmbH test facility in Hamburg on the $13th$ of August 2003.

The loading conditions for this test are based on the W375 load case (Ny Integration issue 18 - criteria: maximum lateral acceleration Ny) provided by the Airbus Loads department. In a meeting at Airbus Hamburg on the $12th$ of August 2003, it was agreed by NTSB, NASA, American Airlines and Airbus to select the NASA W375 MOD load vector for the Lug Test#1.

This report provides a comparison between the measured strain gauge values from the rear main lug test#1 specimen and the FE-analysis. For the purpose of a direct strain gauge comparison a strain gauge tracking subroutine was developed and implemented in the ANSYS nonlinear contact models.

The measured strain values of the rear main Lug Test#1 specimen are compared to

- RHS ANSYS 3D contact model
- LHS ANSYS 3D contact Lug Test#1 model rotx=0°

and

• LHS ANSYS 3D contact Lug Test#1 model rotx=0.5°

All the ANSYS FEA-models include detailed contact surface definition for the fuselage/fin bolt connection.

The strain distribution of the RHS model is the reference for the comparison with the calculated strains from the test model FEA and the measured strain from the lug test itself.

The LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 model represents the reinforced and modified test specimen and includes the test rig load introduction and test specimen support.

2. Rear Main Lug Test#1 specimen

The test part location in the vertical stabilizer is shown on figure 2.1 and the test part itself in figure 2.2.

2.1 FEA-model and Lug Test#1 overview

Figure 2.3 and figure 2.4 show two different FEA-models, which are compared with the Lug Test#1 specimen test (see figure 2.5) results.

RHS ANSYS 3D contact model

[RHS ANSYS 3D contact model is described in report TN – ESGC - 1018/03]

Loading Condition:

W375 boundary displacements conditions from global 2D FEA-model with embedded LHS and RHS 3D models. The Fres resultant was scaled up to the NASA W375 MOD resultant force level.

LHS ANSYS 3D contact Lug Test#1 model

[LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 FEA model is described in report TN – ESGC - 1020/03]

Loading Condition: NASA W375 MOD load vector

Figure 2.4

Lug Test#1 specimen

Lug Test#1 is described in the test requirement 32 X 029 K4 804 P34

Loading Condition: NASA W375 MOD load vector

2.2. Description of the test rig 2.2.1 Global view

Figure 2.6 illustrates the global design of the lug test rig. The global coordinate system corresponds to the Aircraft coordinate system on this test rig and aligns to the three load introduction axes of the test rig.

2.2.2 Load introduction and location of the test specimen in the test rig

The figure 2.7 shows the load introduction components of the test rig and the location of the Lug Test#1 specimen itself.

2.3 Equations for local lug moments

2.3.1 Local lug moment Mx (Equation considers displacements in the yz-plane)

The equation represents the moment equilibrium at the displaced load introduction system due to the deformed test specimen (see figure 2.9). The supports of the Fy- actuator and the rods ends of FMX1/2 are assumed to be fixed and the free play at all bearings and length deformation of the linkages are not taken into account.

For practical reasons, the reference for the displacement measurement is the test rig. This can also cause some errors in the measured values.

The figure 2.9 shows the undeformed and deformed load introduction and the relevant dimension in the test rig.

Table 2.1 **Test rig dimension:**

Equations to recalculate the local lug reactions with the measured data:

Assumptions:

- 1. Deformation of the test rig + fuselage clevis negligible
- 2. Only displacement in the yz-plane considered

Displacement:

 $\Delta zP(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) = \Delta zr + L_{bz}(1 - \cos(\alpha Rx))$ Z-Displacement in point P

 $\Delta yP(\alpha Rx, \Delta yr) = \Delta yr + L_{bz} \cdot \sin(\alpha Rx)$ Y-Displacement in point P

 $\Delta zsy(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) = \Delta zr - L_{bv} \cdot \sin(\alpha Rx)$ *Z*-Displacement sum Fy

Deformation angle:

$$
\alpha Rx = \arcsin\left(\frac{Dz^3 - Dz^4}{600}\right) \text{Rx bolt rotation}
$$
\n
$$
\alpha_y(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta zsy(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr)}{L_{F_y}}\right)
$$
\n
$$
\alpha_z(\alpha Rx, \Delta yr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta yP(\alpha Rx, \Delta yr) + L_{ry}(1 - \cos(\alpha Rx))}{L_{rz}}\right)
$$
\n
$$
\alpha_{Mx}(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta zP(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr)}{L_{F Mx}}\right)
$$

Total moment of measurement rods:

 $M_{Mx}(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) =$

$$
FMXl\Big|\sin(\alpha_{Mx}(\alpha Rx,\Delta zr)\cdot L_{ry} + \cos(\alpha_{Mx}(\alpha Rx,\Delta zr))\cdot (L_{rz}\cos(\alpha_z(\alpha Rx,\Delta yr)) + L_{bz})\Big| + FMX2\Big[\sin(\alpha_{Mx}(\alpha Rx,\Delta zr)\cdot L_{ry} + \cos(\alpha_{Mx}(\alpha Rx,\Delta zr))\cdot (L_{rz}\cos(\alpha_z(\alpha Rx,\Delta yr)) + L_{bz} + 2L)\Big]
$$

Moment resulting from Fz and displacement ∆**yr**

$$
M_{xF_z}(\Delta yr) = F_z \cdot \Delta yr
$$

Moment resulting from Fy and displacement ∆**yr**

$$
M_{xFy}(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) = F_y \cdot L_{by} \cdot (\sin(\alpha_y(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr) - \alpha Rx))
$$

Total moments about the main lug center:

$$
\sum Mx = 0 = -M_{xr} + M_{xFz} - M_{Mx} - F_y \cdot L_{by} \cdot \sin(\alpha_y (\Delta z r))
$$

With the above mentioned equations the reaction moment Mxr is

$$
M_{rr}(\alpha Rx, \Delta yr, \Delta zr) = -M_{xFz}(\Delta yr) - M_{Mx}(\alpha Rx, \Delta yr, \Delta zr) - M_{xFy}(\alpha Rx, \Delta zr)
$$

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2.3.2 Local lug moment Mz (Equation considers displacements in xy-plane)

Equations to recalculate the local lug reactions with the measured data.

Deformation angle:

$$
\alpha_{y}(\Delta xr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta xr}{L_{Fy}}\right) \quad \alpha_{x}(\Delta yr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta yr}{L_{rx}}\right) \quad \alpha_{Mz}(\Delta xr) = \arcsin\left(\frac{\Delta xr}{L_{FMz}}\right)
$$

Total moment of measurement rods:

 $M_{Mz}(\Delta xr, \Delta yr) = (F_{Mz1} + F_{Mz2}) \cdot [\sin(\alpha_{Mz}(\Delta xr)) \cdot L_{xry} + \cos(\alpha_{Mz}(\Delta xr)) \cdot (L_{rx} \cdot \cos(\alpha_x(\Delta yr)) + L_{bx})] +$ $cos(\alpha M_z(\Delta x r)) \cdot F_{Mz1} \cdot 2 \cdot L_x$

Moment resulting from Fx and displacement ∆**yr**

$$
M_{zFx}(\Delta yr) = -F_x \cdot \Delta yr
$$

Moment resulting from Fy and displacement ∆**xr**

$$
M_{zFy}(\Delta xr) = F_y \cdot \Delta xr \cdot (cos(\alpha_y(\Delta xr)) + sin(\alpha_y(\Delta xr)))
$$

With the above mentioned equations the reaction moment Mzr is

$$
M_{zr}(\Delta xr, \Delta yr) = M_{zFx}(\Delta yr) + M_{Mz}(\Delta xr, \Delta yr) + M_{zFy}(\Delta xr)
$$

2.4 ANSYS Lug Test#1 FEA-model overview and lug reaction calculation method

Details of the ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 FEA model (see figure 2.10) are described in the "*LHS Lug sub-component test#1 FEM analysis*" TN-ESGC-1020/03.

The local lug reactions are calculated for every load step at a cross section through the fuselage clevis (see figure 2.11 and 2.12) with a summation of the grid point force balance according to the deformed reference point in the bolt axis. With these information the local lug moment Mx and Mz are calculated.

2.5 ANSYS Contact surface definition

The contact surface definitions are the same for all ANSYS models (see figure 2.13 to 2.16). The ANSYS contact surface allows physically opening and closing gaps between the meshes of the contact borders with a friction coefficient of 0.3.

3. FE-Analysis for comparison with the test

The following FEA-models are used for the comparison between FEA-results and the Lug Test#1:

- I. RHS ANSYS rear main lug nonlinear contact model with the boundary displacement conditions from 2D global model with embedded 3D rear main lugs
- II. LHS ANSYS Lug Test#1 nonlinear contact model with no preadjusted bolt rotation of $RX=0^\circ$
- III. LHS ANSYS Lug Test#1 nonlinear contact model with preadjusted bolt rotation of $RX=0.5^\circ$

3.1 NASA W375 MOD load vector for the Lug Test#1

In agreement with NTSB, NASA, American Airlines and Airbus the W375 MOD load vector with the following max. load components from the NASA calculations is used for all FE-Analyses which are compared with the test (see table 3.1).

3.2 RHS ANSYS contact 3D model NASA W375 MOD

The boundary displacements were applied in 7 steps and the analysis delivers the lug reaction forces as given in table 3.2.

For comparison with the LHS model the local lug moment Mx and Mz the signs of both moments have to be reversed.

3.3 LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 NASA W375 MOD rotx=0°

The applied load vector for the LHS ANSYS Lug Test#1 nonlinear contact analysis is shown in table 3.3.

3.4 LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 NASA W375 MOD rotx=0.5°

For the third analysis model the same W375 MOD load vector was chosen as in chapter 3.3.

Additionally before applying the load vector a bolt rotation about the global X-axis of rotx=0.5° was introduced with a length adjustment of the Fz main rods Z1/2 by the turnbuckles.

4. Lug Test#1 NASA W375 MOD rotx=0.5° loading condition

The NASA investigation for the W375 MOD load case results in the load set target condition for the accident load case (see table 4.1 and 4.2 and figure 4.1). In a meeting at Airbus Hamburg on the $12th$ of August 2003, it was agreed on by NTSB, NASA, American Airlines and Airbus to select the NASA W375 MOD load vector for the Lug Test#1.

This target condition includes a pre-adjusted local bolt rotation of rotx=0.5°. The bolt rotation was introduced in the test rig with the turnbuckles of the Z1 and Z2 main rods. This corresponds to a local lug moment Mx of 2400Nm.

Table 4.1

The forces was then to be applied in the following load steps:

Table 4.2

5. Strain gauge numbering system

All strain gauges are installed on both sides (inboard and outboard) of the test specimen (see figure 5.1 to 5.5). The table 5.1 shows the numbering system with the gauge type, orientation and the location.

1i= for the inboard strain gauge

1o= for the outboard strain gauge

Example: 16_i_B
and shear strain and shear strain

Outboard view of the test specimen Lug Test#1

To compare the measured strains with the FEA-results a tracking subroutine has been written for interpolation between the nearest nodes results and the correct strain gauge position.

6. FEA results

6.1 RHS ANSYS contact 3D model NASA W375 MOD

6.1.1 RHS rear main local lug forces & moments

Rx/Rz bolt rotation in relation to rib 1

6.1.2 Deformation & Rx bolt rotation

The cross section through the CFRP lug, the bolt and the fuselage fitting illustrate the connection bolt contact situation under max. applied loading condition (see figure 6.1 and 6.2). The color scale is von Mises equivalent stress distribution.

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6.2 LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 NASA W375 MOD rotx=0°

6.2.1 Rear main local lug forces & moments

Table 6.2

Rx/Rz bolt rotation in relation to rib 1

6.2.2 Deformation & Rx bolt rotation

The cross section through the CFRP lug, the bolt and the fuselage fitting illustrate the connection bolt contact situation under max. applied loading condition (see figure 6.7 and 6.8). The color scale is von Mises equivalent stress distribution.

6.3 LHS ANSYS contact Lug Test#1 NASA W375 MOD rotx=0.5°

6.3.1 Rear main local lug forces & moments

Rx/Rz bolt rotation in relation to rib 1

6.3.2 Deformation & Rx bolt rotation

The cross section through the CFRP lug, the bolt and the fuselage fitting illustrate the connection bolt contact situation under max. applied loading condition (see figure 6.13 and 6.14). The color scale is von Mises equivalent stress distribution.

7. Test results Lug Test#1 W375 MOD rotx=0.5° 7.1 Lug Test#1 failure pictures

The figures 7.1 to 7.4 show the Lug Test#1 specimen after the test with all strain gauges removed and the fracture line is visible.

7.2 Failure load

The load vector according to chapter 4 was applied to the test specimen. After load step 160 the loads increase continuously and the achieved load was 194 percent of the limit load design gust vector (BI17). The max. load vector is shown in table 7.1.

Measured Forces

The measured forces (see diagram 7.1) from the Lug Test#1 load cells are identical to the applied forces of the FE-Analysis.

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Measured local lug moments and bolt Rx rotation

Taking into account the equations for the local lug moments Mx and Mz described in chapter 2.3 the calculated moments are shown in diagram 7.2.

8. Strain result comparison

The measured strain values of the **Lug Test#1 specimen** are compared to **LHS AN-SYS nonlinear contact Lug Test#1 rotx=0.5°**.

For the comparison of rosette strain gauges, the principle strains and the angle of the principle strain is selected. The principle strains are independent from orientation deviation of rosettes.

For the detailed discussion of the strain gauge results, those gauges are chosen, which measure high strain values and where the failure was initiated. In agreement with the detected fracture line shown in chapter 7. the strain gauge number E03i/o, E04i/o, R11i/o, R12i/o, E22 and E23 are selected.

Figure 8.1

Diagram value description

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Diagram 8.1 **E03i and E03o unidirectional strain**

Diagram 8.2 **E04i and E04o unidirectional strain**

Diagram 8.3 **R11o principle strain**

Diagram 8.4 **R11o principle strain angle**

Diagram 8.6 **R12o principle strain angle**

Diagram 8.7 **E22 unidirectional strain** Lug Test#1_13_August_2003 3000 3500 4000 4500

Diagram 8.7 **E22 unidirectional strain**

8. Summary

The Lug Test#1 specimen ruptured at the level of the NASA load vector which was agreed on by NTSB, NASA, American Airlines and Airbus. The Airbus calculated load vector was at the same load level.

The comparison of measured and analyzed strains validates the FEA-models and the method used.

The strain level comparison between the Lug Test#1 FEA-model and the RHS FEAmodel analysis with the enforced displacement boundary condition indicates that the test performed is representative of the lug behavior during the accident.

During the damage initiation the Fy-load application control commanded the shutdown caused by the change in lateral stiffness of the lug. The test arrangement (without the lateral yoke) does not allow a load redistribution and load transfer to the lateral yoke. The damage initiation is visible by fiber cracks on the outboard surface of the lug typical for a beginning fracture in cleavage mode.

