
Subject: Introduction of A321 Aircraft

Introduction

Delta recently acquired the first of forty five (45) new A321 aircraft and deliveries are scheduled to continue into the first quarter of 2018. The first of these aircraft is planned to enter revenue service late April 2016. The flight deck layout of the A321 is very similar to Delta's A319/320 aircraft. Items unique to the aircraft have been incorporated into the Volume 1 and were covered in the recent Quarterly Continuing Qualification (QCQ).

This bulletin covers subtle differences that crews will encounter with the A321 and contains general information to assist in identifying these characteristics. Additional reference material can be found on the DeltaNet Flight Operations A319/320/321 Fleet homepage under the "What's New" section.

Notable Differences

- **Radome:** Lightning arrestor strips are not visible on the external radome structure.
- **MLG wheel through-bolt/nut:** The wheel tie bolts are not visible due to the brake fan shroud. It was determined that there is no need to have a tie bolt inspection in the routine maintenance program nor in the pilot exterior inspection for the A321.
- **Engine cowl latches:** There is one "lockable" type latch at the front position on each fan cowl. A specific key is necessary to open the latch and a "remove before flight" flag is attached to this key. This particular cowl latch is not painted like other latches on the cowling. The key and attached streamer cannot be removed unless the latch is properly secured / locked.
- **Engine:** The engine drain mast does not include the small round fuel manifold shroud drain line (the drain in which no fuel leakage is allowed from on the 319/320).
- **Flow Deflectors:** Flow deflectors (a.k.a. vortex generators) are installed forward of the fuel overpressure protector cavities at two locations on each wing's lower surface.

- **Engine Starts:**

- During the engine start cycle, the engine generator does not come on line until about 59-60%, unlike the 319/320 at about 50%.
- As the start cycle concludes, the gray box disappears and the generator comes on line.
- AVAIL is momentarily displayed in steady green on the N1 indication after a successful engine start on the ground to indicate that idle has been reached.

- **Minimum/Emergency Fuel**

- The minimum/emergency fuel valve differs from the A319/320 fleet. Specifically, Minimum Fuel for the A321 is 3,700 lbs (compared to 3,500 lbs for the A319/320). The FOM guidance in Chapter 17, Emergency Operations, Section 7 will be adjusted.

Conclusion

A review of the Volume 1, A321 Differences section, should minimize operational challenges of the new aircraft. The information in this bulletin will be incorporated into the appropriate manuals during their normal revision cycles.

If at any time crews recognize a variation in configuration or system operation that is inconsistent with the information published in this bulletin, notify the fleet Technical Manager as soon as practical.

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