

AUTOLAND TESTS



Definition

The autoland function allows an aircraft to land automatically using an ILS or GLS signal. It has to be safe and accurate in order to allow automatic landing in poor visibility conditions when it is not possible to perform a manual landing. The autoland on Airbus aircraft is certified with all engines operational, and with one engine inoperative.

Purpose of the Flight Tests

To tune and then certify the autopilot in order to ensure safe automatic approaches, landings and roll-out in the various landing configurations.

A very high number of parameters affect the tuning of the autoland including weight, center of gravity, wind, altitude, runway slope, etc., which makes the development very complex. A very large number of approaches need to be flown, but the full assessment is completed in the simulator once validated by flight test.

Application to Line Operations

The autoland is certified within limits (e.g. environment, aircraft configurations, weather minimum, failure cases). The corresponding operational limitations and procedures are designed to cope with these limitations in order to ensure safe operations and therefore must be adhered to.

Those videos are presented exclusively for a general educational purpose. They contain general information on Airbus Flight Test activities and shall not be deemed as providing any specific training, technical analysis, guidance and/or opinion to be used in a business context. All information and content of those videos are the sole property of AIRBUS S.A.S. No intellectual property rights are granted by any access to those videos or any disclosure of their content to the public. Those videos shall not be reproduced or displayed without the express written consent of AIRBUS S.A.S, nor be used for any purpose other than that for which they have been released by Airbus.

AIRBUS