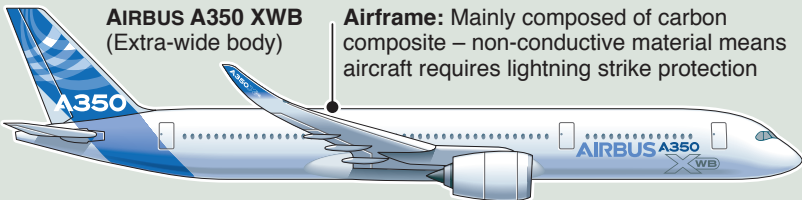


More airlines report A350 paint issues

At least six airlines have expressed concerns over paint and surface flaws on Airbus A350 jets that in some cases has made visible a sub-layer of mesh designed to absorb lightning

AIRBUS A350 XWB
(Extra-wide body)

Airframe: Mainly composed of carbon composite – non-conductive material means aircraft requires lightning strike protection



Airlines reporting paint flaws (number of A350s in fleet*)

Qatar Airways (Qatar)

Grounded: 20

53

Cathay Pacific (Hong Kong)

43

Lufthansa (Germany)

18

Finnair (Finland)

16


Air Caraibes (France)

5

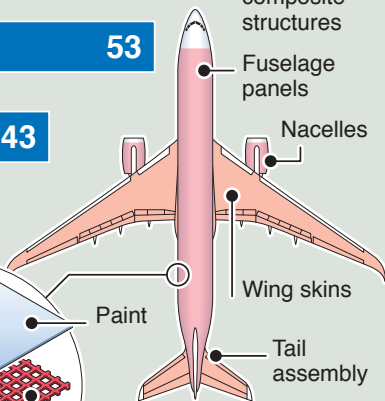
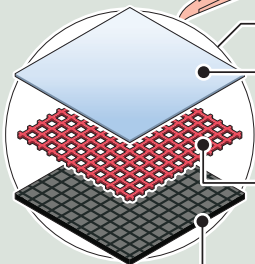
Etihad Airways (UAE)

5

*Active, parked or stored (as of Nov 30, 2021)

 **A350 XWB**
composite
structures

SURFACE STRUCTURE



Metallic mesh layer

Dissipates lightning strikes but makes it harder to get paint to stick

External skin of aircraft