

2.2 Key Characteristics

The A320 family introduced several innovations that define modern airliner operations:

Fly-By-Wire System

The aircraft is controlled electronically rather than mechanically.

Pilot inputs via the sidestick are interpreted by flight control computers, which:

- Enhance stability
 - Prevent excessive maneuvers
 - Protect the aircraft from exceeding limits
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Sidestick Control

Instead of a traditional control column, the A320 uses a sidestick.

Characteristics:

- Located on the side of each pilot
 - Not mechanically linked between pilots
 - Inputs are processed electronically
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ECAM (Electronic Centralized Aircraft Monitoring)

The ECAM system provides:

- System status information
- Automatic failure detection
- Step-by-step guidance in abnormal situations

This reduces pilot workload and improves situational awareness.

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