Safety Regulation Group Safety Information and Data Department



Follow-up Action on Occurrence Report

ACCIDENT TO BOEING B747-436, G-BNLG, AT LONDON HEATHROW AIRPORT ON 21 APRIL 2004

(AIRCRAFT STRUCK AIRBRIDGE WHILST PARKING)

CAA FACTOR NUMBER : F20/2005

FACTOR PUBLICATION DATE : 07 June 2005

OPERATOR : BA

CAA OCCURRENCE NUMBER : 2004/02443

AAIB REPORT : Bulletin 5/2005

SYNOPSIS

(From AAIB Report)

Whilst attempting to park on its allocated stand, the aircraft struck the airbridge, which had been parked in the wrong position, with its left wing. Recent work altering the stand's alignment resulted in a choice of parking positions for different aircraft types and corresponding parking positions for the airbridge. The investigation revealed the airbridge had been parked in a position marked for aircraft parking on a different part of the stand.

FOLLOW UP ACTION

The seven Safety Recommendations, made by the AAIB following their investigation, are reproduced below, together with the CAA's responses.

Recommendation 2005-14

It is recommended that Heathrow Airport Limited should expedite the program to install duplicate emergency stop buttons at all of its airbridge control stations and ensure that all such buttons are clearly and unambiguously marked.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2005-15

It is recommended that Heathrow Airport Limited should identify a management post responsible for the maintenance, development and safety of aircraft stand parking guidance systems.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2005-16

It is recommended that Heathrow Airport Limited should review the system by which Operational Safety Instructions are published to ensure that they are either incorporated into a relevant document, such as the Aerodrome Manual or Aeronautical Information Publication, or are provided with an effective index such that the information they provide is readily identifiable.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2005-17

It is recommended that Heathrow Airport Limited should ensure that operating instructions are prominently displayed on any aircraft stand, including the airbridge, where changes in the operation have been made or where the mode of operation is non-standard.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2005-18

It is recommended that Heathrow Airport Limited should review all ground markings related to aircraft parking stands, to ensure that their meanings are unambiguous, that markings are clearly displayed and that clear diagrams of such markings are prominently displayed on any aircraft stand.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2005-19

It is recommended that the Civil Aviation Authority should conduct a comprehensive, documented, audit of the Heathrow Airport Limited airside safety system.

CAA Response

The CAA will conduct and document an audit of the airside safety system at Heathrow Airport, during the annual aerodrome licensing audit from 26-30 September 2005.

CAA Status - Open

Recommendation 2005-20

It is recommended that British Airways should require that a member of their ground crew assumes the responsibility of being adjacent to the ground level emergency STOP light button and of monitoring the arrival of the aircraft onto the stand, whenever ground crews are present on a stand whilst an aircraft is manoeuvring to park.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed