

# Airbus Industrie A310, 5B-DAX, 1 October 1998 at 0920 hrs

**AAIB Bulletin No: 4/99 Ref: EW/G98/10/01      Category: 1.1**

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Airbus Industrie A310, 5B-DAX

**No & Type of Engines:** 2 CF6-80C2 turbofan engines

**Year of Manufacture:** 1988

**Date & Time (UTC):** 1 October 1998 at 0920 hrs

**Location:** London Heathrow Airport

**Type of Flight:** Public Transport

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 9 - Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** First Officer's windscreen overheated

**Commander's Licence:** Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 46 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 15,000 hours (of which 5,500 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 180 hours  
Last 28 days - 65 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was parked on Stand E38 at Heathrow Airport. As the passengers were about to board, the First Officer noticed smoke and sparks from his windscreen. The fire services were alerted but the fire self-extinguished and it could then be seen that the windscreen was cracked in a number of places.

It was expected at the time that the windscreen heating controller had malfunctioned, allowing high current to remain applied after the aircraft touched down. The controller, P/No 6664157, was removed and returned to the manufacturer for examination which showed that its temperature detection thresholds were out-of-tolerance. After adjustment of the thresholds and embodiment of modifications, the unit was returned to service.