

SERIOUS INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing 747-436, G-CIVA
No & Type of Engines:	4 Rolls-Royce RB211-524G2-T-19 turbofan engines
Year of Manufacture:	1993 (Serial no: 27092)
Date & Time (UTC):	9 June 2013 at 0710 hrs
Location:	London Heathrow Airport
Type of Flight:	Commercial Air Transport (Passenger)
Persons on Board:	Crew - 16 Passengers - 312
Injuries:	Crew - None Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Galley 4 trash compactor defect
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	46 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	14,407 hours (of which 2,085 were on type) Last 90 days - 250 hours Last 28 days - 7 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and additional information provided by the operator

The aircraft had started its initial descent into Heathrow Airport and was about to enter the Ockham hold. A member of the cabin crew noticed that the trash compactor in Galley 4 (near Door 2 Left) was emitting acrid smoke, but she was unable to isolate its electrical supply. The commander sent the co-pilot to pull the circuit breaker. He could not locate the circuit breaker but was able to isolate the galley using the galley power emergency switch.

The cabin crew monitored the situation, and a few minutes later the smell had worsened, so the commander was informed. The crew declared a MAYDAY and carried out an expeditious approach and landing at Heathrow. They elected to vacate the runway and, after discussions with both the fire services and the cabin crew, taxied to stand. The fire services removed the compactor and the passengers were then disembarked normally.

The compactor unit was sent to the manufacturer for further investigation but no conclusive evidence for the cause of the acrid smoke was found.

The operator has included the findings from this event in its review of cabin crew training and fire safety drills.