

# Tupolev Tu-154M, LZ-BTW, 17 January 1997

## AAIB Bulletin No: 4/97 Ref: EW/G97/01/10 Category: 1.1

<b>Aircraft Type and Registration:</b>	Tupolev Tu-154M, LZ-BTW
<b>No &amp; Type of Engines:</b>	3 Soloviev D-30KU turbofan engines
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	Not known
<b>Date &amp; Time (UTC):</b>	17 January 1997 at 1555 hrs
<b>Location:</b>	Stand G12, London Heathrow Airport
<b>Type of Flight:</b>	Public Transport
<b>Persons on Board:</b>	Crew - 8 - Passengers - 88
<b>Injuries:</b>	Crew - None - Passengers - None
<b>Nature of Damage:</b>	Minor damage to aircraft skin
<b>Commander's Licence:</b>	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Ratings
<b>Commander's Age:</b>	33 years
<b>Commander's Flying Experience:</b>	5,600 hours (of which 2,500 were on type) Last 90 days - N/A Last 28 days - N/A
<b>Information Source:</b>	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

After landing at Heathrow Airport the aircraft was directed to Stand G12 and brought to a halt in the required position. As the airbridge was being manoeuvred to the front left door of the aircraft it struck the left wing root and punctured the skin. The aircraft was checked at a maintenance facility; the damage was assessed as minor and the small puncture was repaired with speedtape. Investigation revealed that none of the airbridges at Heathrow are compatible with the TU 154 and the local procedures have now been re-written to ensure that this aircraft type is no longer parked on stands equipped with an airbridge.