

Boeing 747-436, G-BNLL

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/99 Ref: EW/G99/03/32 Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration: Boeing 747-436, G-BNLL

No & Type of Engines: 4 Rolls-Royce RB211-524G2-19 turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: 1990

Date & Time (UTC): 27 March 1999 at 1700 hrs

Location: London Heathrow Airport

Type of Flight: Public Transport (Passenger)

Persons on Board: Crew - Not relevant - Passengers - Not relevant

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Minor damage to No 1 engine cowling

Commander's Licence: Not relevant

Commander's Age: Not relevant

Commander's Flying Experience: Not relevant

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and subsequent enquiries

The aircraft was being loaded prior to departure, when a baggage cart struck the No 1 engine inboard cowling and caused a split of about 18 inches in the cowling skin. The cart suffered a small dent in the top right corner of the cab.

A preliminary investigation by the Airport Authority revealed that the driver, although aware of the instruction not to drive between the engines of an aircraft, did so in his eagerness to get the last few bags to hold 5 before it was closed for departure. The ramp condition was dry and it was a sunny day. The vehicle was found to have no unserviceability that would have contributed to the incident.