

Boeing 737-4S3, G-BUHL, 16 April 1996

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Aircraft Type and Registration: Boeing 737-4S3, G-BUHL

No & Type of Engines: 2 CFM56-3C1 turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: 1991

Date & Time (UTC): 16 April 1996 at 1948 hrs

Location: Stand C18 at London Heathrow Airport

Type of Flight: Public Transport

Persons on Board: Crew - 7 Passengers - 127

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Minor impact damage to rear port door

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 52 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 17,000 hours (of which 4,400 were on type)

Last 90 days - 100 hours

Last 28 days - 59 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was stationary on Stand C18 at Heathrow with both port doors open and the passengers were preparing to disembark. A set of motorised steps had been positioned at the rear port door, but when the operator attempted to lower the jacks to stabilise the steps he inadvertently commanded them to raise instead. The steps struck the bottom corner of the door causing minor impact damage: after inspection the aircraft was declared unserviceable. The door was repaired and the aircraft was returned to service on the following day.