

Boeing 737-236, G-BKYE

AAIB Bulletin No: 3/97 Ref: EW/G96/11/19 Category: 1.1

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing 737-236, G-BKYE
No & Type of Engines:	2 Pratt & Whitney JT8D-15A turbofan engines
Year of Manufacture:	1984
Date & Time (UTC):	22 November 1996 at 1530 hrs
Location:	Manchester Airport
Type of Flight:	Public Transport
Persons on Board:	Crew - 5 - Passengers - 42
Injuries:	Crew - None - Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Gash in rear cargo door
Commander's Licence:	Airline Transport Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	40 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	2,865 hours (of which 2,707 were on type) Last 90 days - 160 hours Last 28 days - 55 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

Just before push back from Stand 26 at Manchester the ground engineer reported to the flight crew that a 12 inch gash in the aircraft's skin was visible on the aft cargo door. The aircraft was removed from service and the door replaced. Earlier, prior to passenger boarding, the cabin crew had heard a thump but had not believed it to be significant. The first officer, who carried out the pre-flight external inspection, did not see any damage to the door as it was open at the time with a 'belt loader' in position.

The commander reported that it would have been highly unlikely for damage of this nature to go unnoticed by those responsible at the time of the occurrence.