

AAIB Bulletin No: 4/95

Ref: EW/G95/01/07

Category: 1.1

INCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration: Boeing 737-436, G-DOCG

No & Type of Engines: 2 CFM 56-3-C1 turbofan engines

Year of Manufacture: 1991

Date & Time (UTC): 18 January 1995 at 1652 hrs

Location: London Heathrow Airport

Type of Flight: Public Transport

Persons on Board: Crew - 7 Passengers - 48

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Substantial to aircraft skin to the rear and below the rear freight hold

Commander's Licence: Airline Transport Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 12,000 hours (of which 5,300 were on type)
Last 90 days - 164 hours
Last 28 days - 63 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

A few minutes after the aircraft arrived and parked on stand B29 the crew felt the aircraft 'lurch'. After the passengers had disembarked the commander examined the outside of the aircraft. The only ground support vehicle near the aircraft at the time was a set of mobile steps positioned at the left rear door. Close examination of that area showed no damage.

Shortly before the aircraft departed for its next service an aircraft technician discovered significant damage to the aircraft skin on the right side close to the rear cargo hold that rendered it unfit for flight. There were no witnesses to the incident.

The commander reported that this incident could have had serious consequences as the driver of the unknown vehicle involved in the incident failed to stop and report the collision.