

28th October 2025

ASGrOps_SA_080

V1.0

Safety Alert

Vehicle Roll Incident – Aircraft Contact on Stand

1. Introduction

This Safety Alert is issued following a serious incident involving a vehicle rollaway that resulted in contact with a wide-bodied aircraft on stand. The vehicle became lodged beneath the aircraft fuselage while it was fully fuelled and loaded for departure. Emergency services were deployed, and the aircraft was subsequently withdrawn from service due to damage sustained.

The incident highlights the critical importance of vehicle parking protocols and the risks posed by unsecured vehicles in proximity to aircraft.

2. Action Required

- Always apply the handbrake when parking vehicles on or near aircraft stands. Many stands have a gradient, increasing the risk of vehicle movement if not properly secured.
- Review your company's risk assessments and training materials to ensure they explicitly address the hazard of vehicle rollaway due to unsecured handbrakes, especially in sloped areas.
- Conduct refresher training for all airside drivers on vehicle securing procedures and the potential outcomes of non-compliance.
- Assess parking arrangements to confirm vehicles are positioned safely and away from aircraft movement zones.

Any questions regarding this Safety Alert should be addressed to AirsideInvestigations@heathrow.com

Additional information, Operational Safety Instructions (OSIs) and Operational Advice Notices (OANs) can be found at heathrow.com/airside/useful-publications

Reference:

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