



AIC B-03/06. Information about en-route wake turbulence incident and reporting procedures

Purpose

The purpose of this AIC is to inform aviation personnel of the potential severity of en-route wake turbulence incidents based on an actual incident involving two aircraft of wake turbulence category HEAVY.

Background

ICAO European Air Navigation Planning Group (EANPG/47) considered details of a reported incident where an Airbus A340-500 was authorised to climb through the flight path of a Boeing B757 while the in-trail separation was seven miles and increasing. The Boeing 757 experienced a violent and uncontrollable roll accompanied by a loss of altitude presumably resulting from wake vortex turbulence encounter in which passengers and cabin crewmembers were abruptly tossed around the cabin, some of them being injured.

Radar data analysis indicates that the separation between the two aircraft was at all times in excess of the standard applied by Air Traffic Control, and at the time of the incident the separation between the aircraft was one thousand feet (1000 ft.) vertical and nine miles (9 NM) horizontal (in-trail).

International and national actions

In order to determine the appropriate course of action to be taken in relation to wake vortex encounters on a global level, ICAO has encouraged States to report all wake turbulence incidents to ICAO for their consideration.

Civil Aviation Administration – Denmark shall therefore remind pilots-in-command of their obligation to report Wake turbulence incidents according to Danish Regulations as follows, depending on the severity of the incident:

- Ref. BL 5-40 – Order on the duty to report aircraft accidents and incidents – Appendix: “*System failures, weather phenomena, operation outside the approved flight envelope or other occurrences which could cause difficulties in controlling the aircraft.*” - are to be reported to Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB Denmark).
- Ref. BL 8-10 – Regulations on mandatory reporting of flight safety occurrences – Appendix 5, para 1.7.3: “*Unexpected wake turbulence encounters not causing difficulties in controlling the aircraft.*” - are to be reported to Civil Aviation Administration – Denmark.

Additional information

Any questions related to this AIC can be obtained from Civil Aviation Administration – Denmark on telephone +45 3618 6000 or by e-mail dcaa@slv.dk

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