

AAIB Report: Airbus A320-214, contained engine failure and unnecessary emergency evacuation

News story

Shortly after the takeoff roll of an Airbus A320-214 (OE-LOA) was commenced it was rejected, due to a contained engine failure, 1 March 2019. As the flight crew were about to taxi the aircraft off the runway, an evacuation was commanded by the Senior Flight Attendant. Ten passengers were treated for minor injuries that occurred during the evacuation.



The aircraft, an Airbus A320-214 (OE-LOA) was on a scheduled flight from London Stansted Airport to Vienna International Airport, Austria. Shortly after the takeoff roll was commenced it was rejected, due to a contained failure of the left engine, and the aircraft was brought to a stop on the runway. Just as the flight crew were about to taxi the aircraft off the runway, an evacuation was commanded by the Senior Flight Attendant. Ten passengers were treated for minor injuries that occurred during the evacuation and there was a risk of serious injury due to one of the engines running during the evacuation. The operator has taken several safety actions, principally based around the training of its flight attendants. Two Safety Recommendations have been made in this report regarding passenger evacuation and the retrieval of carry-on baggage during an evacuation.

The investigation also found that the left engine experienced a contained failure following the rupture and release of several blades from the first stage of the high-pressure compressor. The blades fractured as a result of high-cycle fatigue loading which initiated in the dovetail, due to a once-per-revolution aerodynamic excitation. An inlet guide vane lever arm had been improperly assembled which led to aerodynamic excitation of the passing blades and the resulting forces exceeded the design loads of the blades.

[Read the report.](#)

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