16th August 2024

ASGrOps_SA_069

V1.0

Safety Alert FOD Risk from Vehicles

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to highlight an identified trend of FOD risks from vehicles, most commonly aircraft tugs.

Vehicles have been observed operating on the manoeuvring area, carrying items that are unrestrained and are at risk of falling from the vehicle and causing a hazard to aircraft. Aircraft chocks and aircraft pins are often carried externally on these vehicles.

There have also been instances of items that have fallen from vehicles having been found on the taxiway system.

2. Safety Considerations

- As part of your pre-use inspection, check for loose and unrestrained items and remove these from the exterior of the vehicle. Ensure that items placed in external carry cages are secure and are not at risk of falling during transit.
- Aircraft chocks on push back tugs should be stowed in appropriate cages (as shown above), and not elsewhere on the vehicle where they may fall off.
- Periodically check that nothing has fallen from your vehicle. If you notice something has fallen from your vehicle, contact Airside Operations, providing details of your route or where you believe you may have lost an item.
- If you observe FOD on the manoeuvring area, contact Airside Operations to retrieve this.

Enquiries

Any questions regarding this Safety Alert should be addressed to airside_safety@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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