



SAFETY ALERT 2018-05

Issue 01

Date of Issue: 12th June 2018

SUBJECT:

GROUND OPERATIONS AT HAZRAT SHAHJALAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, DHAKA, BANGLADESH

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS:

CAAP 46
CAR-X

REASON:

As part of the GCAA obligations to the Chicago Convention, the GCAA, as the designated civil aviation authority for the UAE, is required to ensure that all ground operations are conducted in a safe and secure manner. Though non-compliance raised during any regulatory audits or inspections are timely addressed in the past, Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport is far from satisfactory. Despite effort by the GCAA and UAE operators in its attempt to address the ground operations deficiencies at the airport, little enthusiasm by the service provider is apparent.

Since early 2016, the GCAA and its operators have conducted more than 6 ground operations inspections at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. The findings were identical, mostly evolving around the issues on ground service equipment, human resources, staff training, prevention, detection and removal of Foreign Object Damage (FOD), uncontrolled RAMP movement, wild life management, security but more importantly the human contributions or factors.

Recently, a follow up inspection was conducted by the GCAA aiming at reassessing the situation. Though small progress had been made, most main hazards identified previously remain unchanged.

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to:

- a) alert UAE Air Carriers operating at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka about the hazard posed to aviation safety by the Ground Operations activities at that airport including equipment, human resources, activities and infrastructure issues; and
- b) remind them about their obligations for advanced hazards identification and risk mitigations at that airport.

Though this Safety Alert applies to Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, similar conditions might exist at other airports in Bangladesh. In this instances, similar requirements shall apply.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation No. 1:

- a) The unresolved hazardous issues at the airport therefore necessitate UAE Operators to reassess and verify that ground operations at the airport are safe and take all necessary measures to ensure that the risk are mitigated to an acceptable level, particularly at the ramp or apron areas.
- b) UAE Air Carriers in particular should also:
 - 1) conducted more frequently a hazard identification and risk mitigation on Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport;
 - 2) maintain a hazard and risk register with emphasis on ramp and apron areas for internal and external use;
 - 3) regularly inform all relevant personnel on the status of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport ground operations;
 - 4) Identify any additional activities required to ensure that the safety is not compromised by advanced control of the apron area before arrival and departure of any aircraft, enhanced pre-flight inspection looking for potential aircraft damages not reported, etc.
 - 5) participate, directly or indirectly, in the airport Airline Operators Committee (AOC).
 - 6) seek IATA assistance in resolving ground operations issues
 - 7) share safety information between UAE Air Carriers and with the GCAA
 - 8) provide the GCAA a copy of the Risk Register/mitigations including its updates every quarterly.

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