



Handler Behaviours – Tow Bar Feet

12th January 2021

ASGrOps_SA_028

V1.0



Introduction

In the last 24 months, Heathrow has seen a number of incidents whereby the tow bar foot has been found on the taxiway. Work has been done with handlers to ensure that all towbar feet have identifying marks however the problem continues. The purpose of this safety alert is to remind handlers of their requirements regarding this, in order to reduce the risk of further occurrences.

Handlers responsibilities regarding aircraft tow bars:

1. Handlers to remind and brief their push back teams around the importance of ensuring that the tow bar tap is fully closed before the manoeuvres commence.
2. Handlers are actively encouraged to go out to their equipment and inspect their tow bar feet for signs of fatigue in order to ensure that they remain in serviceable condition.
3. Proactive monitoring will be undertaken by Airside Operations to ensure the compliance of equipment. Due to the risks associated with aircraft tow bars, failure to do so may result in penalty points being issued

Enquiries

Any questions regarding this Safety Alert should be addressed to the Heathrow Airside Standards and Assurance Team at airside_safety@heathrow.com

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

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