

12th December 2023

ASGrOps_SA_060

V1.0

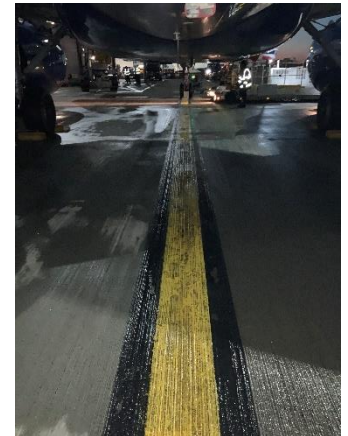
Safety Alert

Slips, Trips and Falls on The Apron

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Safety Alert is to highlight a recent increase in the number of personal injury incidents in which Team Heathrow colleagues have sustained injuries whilst operating on the airfield due to slips and falls during cold conditions.

Stand surfaces contaminated with residual glycol from previous de-icing activities has been evident in several recent personal injury incidents. On 1st December, a pilot conducting a pre-departure walkaround slipped on the yellow centreline paint marking. The picture on the right highlights the glycol contaminated stand. On 2nd December, a Team Heathrow colleague slipped on a stand due to glycol contamination caused by the de-icing of an aircraft previously on that stand.



A further incident occurred when, stepping off a parked ULD elevator, a Team Heathrow colleague stepped onto the adjacent grass area which was icy and wet. Stepping onto the soft grass resulted in them twisting their ankle and attending hospital.

2. Safety Considerations

- Prior to activation of Stand Entry Guidance, the presence of contaminants should be identified during FOD inspections. If the stand is contaminated with glycol, please notify Airside Operations who are able to perform a stand clean.
- Report unsafe conditions and use the HOSMU units on stand to treat any patches of ice.
- Avoid rushing or taking shortcuts, always being aware of your surroundings, as the winter conditions can lead to surfaces being icy or wet.
- Ensure you are wearing correct PPE, such as safety shoes. Ensure that safety footwear is in a good state of repair.
- Whilst the conditions may be cold, ensure both hands are free for balance, rather than in your pockets. This will also enable you to break your fall should you slip, trip or fall.

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:

Author: Kush Shah
Job title: Airside Safety Investigation Officer
Location: Airside Operations Facility

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Approved by: Alex Bailey
Job title: Airside Safety Investigation Manager

