



INTERIM STATEMENT

MAL/2021/21/11/INTR/01

Accident Investigation Bureau

Interim Statement on ground collision between a lavatory service truck with fleet number 9/5 operated by Skyway Aviation Handling Co. Plc (SAHCO) and a parked Boeing 737-300 aircraft with nationality and registration marks 5N-DAB owned and operated by Max Air Limited which occurred at Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport Abuja on 21st November 2021.

AIB REPORT NUMBER: MAL/2022/21/11/INTR/01
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On 21st November, 2021 at about 15:35 h, a lavatory service truck with fleet number 9/5 operated by Skyway Aviation Handling Co. PLC (SAHCO), had a ground collision with a parked Boeing 737-300 aircraft with nationality and registration marks 5N-DAB, operated by Max Air Limited; at Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja (DNAA).

5N-DAB was scheduled to operate eight sectors for the day. After the third sector, 5N-DAB was parked at stand D8. While Boarding for the fourth sector (Abuja to Maiduguri), the Pilot requested ground service (lavatory service) for the aircraft.

According to the Ground Support Equipment (GSE) driver, he was providing conveyor belt service to another aircraft when he was called upon to service the Max Air aircraft. After positioning the truck with the aid of another SAHCO GSE marshaller, it was put on chocks. Afterwards, the driver realized that his hands could not reach the aircraft lavatory drain valve. The GSE driver requested the GSE marshaller to guide him to reposition the truck closer to the aircraft. The GSE driver further stated that in an attempt to reposition the truck, by reversing he pressed the throttle pedal instead of the brake pedal, and the truck impacted the tail section of the aircraft.

According to the GSE marshaller after removing the chocks placed behind the tyre of the bowser, the lavatory bowser abruptly moved, impacted the

aircraft, passed underneath the aircraft and continued moving until it finally stopped by the Skycare Catering Service truck which was servicing the same aircraft.

The GSE marshaller stated that after the lavatory bowser impacted the Skycare Catering Service truck, he rushed and opened the driver side door to find out what went wrong. On opening the door, the driver fell out of the lavatory service truck.

According to the Pilot, while preparing for the next sector (Abuja to Maiduguri), he heard a loud bang accompanied with shaking of the aircraft. Boarding was stopped and passengers who were already onboard were disembarked to await further instructions.

The incident occurred at about 12:30 h during daytime.

ACTION

The Final Draft report is being compiled and at an advanced stage. Upon completion of the draft final report, it will be sent to stakeholders for their substantial comments in line with the requirements of section 6.3 of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 13 to the convention.

This interim report is being issued on the 1st anniversary of the incident in accordance with the provisions of ICAO Annex 13.

In accordance with Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation Act 2006, Civil Aviation (Investigation of Air Accident and Incidents) Regulations 2019, the sole purpose of this Investigation is to prevent aviation accidents and serious incidents. It is not the purpose of any such investigation and the associated Investigation report to apportion blame or liability.