

Aircraft dumps fuel over the French-Swiss border region

Geneva, 2 October 2010. Skyguide reports, on behalf of the Swiss Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), that a Boeing B763 aircraft of Air Seychelles had to abort its flight on 1 October owing to technical problems and was obliged to jettison fuel to bring its weight down to the maximum prescribed for landing.

The fuel was dumped between 2030 and 2100 local time over the region between St-Prex (Switzerland) and Dijon (France). The aircraft jettisoned some 18 tonnes of kerosene. The fuel dump was performed between 24'000 and 19'000 feet (approx. 8000-6500 metres) above sea level.

The aircraft had taken off from Paris for the Seychelles. After jettisoning fuel, it landed safely again in Paris Charles-de-Gaulle.

All fuel dumping activities are subject to strict guidelines which are designed to minimise any additional risk to the aircraft and their impact on the environment. No evidence has ever been found to date of any harm to humans, animals or flora as a result of jettisoned fuel. Responsibility for ensuring that the relevant guidelines are observed rests with the FOCA.

skyguide
swiss air navigation services ltd.
media relations
CH-1215 Geneva 15

Contact:

phone: +41 22 417 4008
email: presse@skyguide.ch
internet: www.skyguide.ch

Skyguide is responsible for providing air navigation services within Swiss airspace and in the airspace of certain adjoining regions in neighbouring countries. The company guides the civil and military aircraft entrusted to its care – around 3 150 flights a day or 1.15 million a year – through some of the busiest and most complex airspace in Europe. Skyguide is a non-profit limited company which has its head office in Geneva. The majority of its shares are held by the Swiss Confederation. The company generates annual operating revenue of over CHF 362 million (2009) and employs some 1 400 people at 14 locations in Switzerland. Skyguide is also a member, together with its sister organisations in Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, of the FABEC initiative to create a common functional airspace block that will bring greater efficiency to Central Europe's air traffic management services and activities.
