

Aircraft dumps fuel over France before unscheduled landing at Geneva Airport

Geneva, 2 June 2014. Skyguide reports, on behalf of the Swiss Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), that a Boeing 777 aircraft of Saudi Arabian Airlines had to make an unscheduled landing at Geneva airport on its flight of 31 May 2014 due to a medical emergency on board and was obliged to jettison fuel to bring its weight down to the maximum prescribed for landing.

The fuel was dumped between 06:53 and 06:58 hours local time on a route west of Val Thorens (FR) between 26 000 and 15 000 feet (approx. 8 000 and 4 500 above sea level).

The aircraft had taken off from Washington DC and was en route to Jeddah. After jettisoning fuel, it landed safely in Geneva.

All fuel dumping activities are subject to strict guidelines which are designed to minimise any additional risk to the aircraft and the impact on the environment. Responsibility for ensuring that the relevant guidelines are observed rests with the FOCA.

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