

Aircraft dumps fuel over the Swiss Plateau

Geneva, 28 November 2009. On behalf of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA), skyguide informs that a A343 of SWISS was obliged to abort its flight on 27 November for technical reasons, and was forced to jettison fuel to bring its weight down to the maximum prescribed for landing.

The fuel was jettisoned between 23.45 and 0.55 local time over the Swiss Plateau. The aircraft dumped a total of about 70 tonnes of aviation kerosene during this procedure. The fuel was dumped at 15'000 feet (approximately 4'570 metres above sea level).

The aircraft had taken off from Zurich for Sao Paulo. After dumping the fuel, it returned to Zurich where it landed safely.

Skyguide reports all cases of fuel dumping to the Swiss aviation authorities. If it occurs over Southern Germany, the incident is also reported to the German Ministry of Transport and the DFS, Germany's air navigation services organisation.

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

contact:
phone: +41 22 417 40 08
e-mail: presse@skyguide.ch
internet: www.skyguide.ch

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