

#### (4) Emergency evacuation was conducted, based on a warning indicating the presence of smoke in the cargo compartment(s)

Summary: On August 21, 2005, an Airbus Industrie A330-303, operated by Airline D, took off at Narita International Airport heading for Perth International Airport. During the flight, a warning was displayed on the electronic centralized aircraft monitor (ECAM) indicating the presence of smoke in the cargo compartment(s). The crew made the decision to change their destination to Kansai International Airport and the aircraft landed at the airport.

Subsequently, on its way to a parking spot, a passenger emergency evacuation was conducted using escape slides on the taxiway.

There were 194 persons on board including 13 crew members and 181 passengers. During the evacuation, one passenger was seriously injured and eight passengers sustained minor injuries.

There was no damage to the aircraft.

#### Lead up to emergency evacuation

Around 23:05

During the flight, a warning was displayed indicating the presence of smoke in the cargo compartment(s).

Around 23:43

Because smoke warnings were repeatedly displayed thereafter, the captain made the decision to fly to Kansai International Airport.

00:51

The aircraft landed at Kansai International Airport and stopped on the taxiway.

Around 00:55

An airport fire-fighting command-post vehicle saw something that looked like white smoke coming out from below the cockpit and reported it to the control tower. Then, the evacuation slides of the aircraft were suddenly deployed.

Around 00:57

After confirming that there was smoke from around the nose gear, the captain radioed that the evacuation was going to be made using slides. Then, evacuation started.

#### Breakdown of the seriously injured

- Female unknown age fractured her pelvis.  
On the lower portion of an evacuation slide, the passenger, who was until then held by her parent from behind, slid out of her parent's arms and struck her lower back against the ground.

Eight passengers sustained minor injuries due to bruises or abrasions.



### Situation at evacuation

- Some passengers were carrying hand baggage or carry-on suitcases as they evacuated.
- The number of evacuation slides used was 7 out of 8. At one slide, the door did not open.
- Firefighters provided assistance at the bottom of three slides. At the slide where the serious injury occurred, there was no one assisting people.
- The cabin attendants did not ask passengers that slid down to the ground first to assist the subsequent passengers.

The investigation report of this case is published on the Board's website.

(Issued on March 28, 2008)

[http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb/eng-air\\_report/VH-QPE.pdf](http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb/eng-air_report/VH-QPE.pdf)