

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: Atlanta, Georgia Accident Number: DCA19CA105

Date & Time: March 10, 2019, 21:17 Local **Registration:** N3756 (A1); N591NW

(A2)

Aircraft: Boeing 737 (A1); Boeing 757 (A2) Aircraft Damage: Minor (A1); Substantial (A2)

466 N (44) 040

Defining Event: Ground collision Injuries: 166 None (A1); 240

None (A2)

Flight Conducted Under: Part 121: Air carrier - Scheduled (A1); Part 121: Air carrier - Scheduled (A2)

Analysis

On March 10, 2019, at 2117 eastern daylight time, Delta Airlines flight 1068, a Boeing 737 (B737), N3756, collided with Delta Airlines flight 2777, a Boeing 757 (B757), N591NW while taxing along taxiway B at the Hartsfield Jackson Atlanta International Airport (KATL), Atlanta, Georgia. There were no injuries to the passengers and crew onboard either airplane, and the B757 was substantially damaged. Both aircraft were operating under 14 *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 121 as regularly scheduled passenger flights.

The B757 had landed on runway 26R and was holding short of runway 26L at taxiway B2, awaiting clearance to cross the runway and taxi to the ramp. The B737 had landed following the B757 and was cleared to taxi along taxiway B to the Victor Loop. When approaching B2 on B, the B737 crew reported taxiing to the right of centerline to provide clearance with the B757 tail on their left. The B737 left wingtip contacted the B757 tail resulting in a light shudder on both aircraft. The B757 crew reported on ground frequency that they had been hit and the B737 crew acknowledged they may have hit them when passing along taxiway B. The B757 remained on the taxiway until maintenance had evaluated the damage, then taxied to the gate and deplaned. The B737 continued taxiing to the gate and deplaned. Post-accident inspection revealed substantial damage to the right elevator of the B757 and minor damage to the left winglet of the B737.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: failure of the B737 captain to maintain separation with the airplane stopped on the taxiway.

Findings

Personnel issues (A1)	Forgotten action/omission - Pilot
Personnel issues (A2)	Forgotten action/omission - Pilot of other aircraft

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Factual Information

History of Flight

Taxi-from runway (A1)	Ground collision (Defining event)
Standing-engine(s) operating (A2)	Ground collision

Pilot Information (A1)

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	64,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 20, 2019
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 21, 2018
Flight Time:		B hours (Total, this make and model), 1 ast 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 2	

Co-pilot Information (A1)

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	39,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Right
Other Aircraft Rating(s):		Restraint Used:	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):		Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	May 18, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 28, 2018
Flight Time:	2042 hours (Total, all aircraft), 922 hours (Total, this make and model), 71 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

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Pilot Information (A2)

Certificate:	Airline transport	Age:	61,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Unknown
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 1 Unknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	October 10, 2018
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	January 21, 2019
Flight Time:	14055 hours (Total, all aircraft), 9390 hours (Total, this make and model), 4877 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 138 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Co-pilot Information (A2)

nsport	Age:	58,Male
gine land; Multi-engine	Seat Occupied:	Right
	Restraint Used:	Unknown
	Second Pilot Present:	
	Toxicology Performed:	
nknown	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 14, 2018
	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	November 24, 2018
	nknown rs (Total, all aircraft), 1100	Restraint Used: Second Pilot Present: Toxicology Performed: nknown Last FAA Medical Exam:

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Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information (A1)

Aircraft Make:	Boeing	Registration:	N3756
Model/Series:	737 832	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2001	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Transport	Serial Number:	30493
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	168
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 7, 2019 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	174200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo fan
Airframe Total Time:	59207 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Cfm Intl.
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	CFM56 SERIES
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	26000 Lbs thrust
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information (A2)

Aircraft Make:	Boeing	Registration:	N591NW
Model/Series:	757 351	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	2003	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Transport	Serial Number:	32991
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	245
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	March 10, 2019 Continuous airworthiness	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	273500 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	2 Turbo fan
Airframe Total Time:	56451 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:	C126 installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	PW2040
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	41700 Lbs thrust
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Flag carrier (121)

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Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Night
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KATL	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	00:52 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 8500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	320°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.18 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	19°C / 11°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Kansas City, MO (KMCI) (A1); Seattle, WA (KSEA) (A2)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	IFR (A1)
Destination:	Atlanta, GA (KATL) (A1); Atlanta, GA (KATL) (A2)	Type of Clearance:	IFR (A1); IFR (A2)
Departure Time:	18:39 Local (A1); 13:38 Local (A2)	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International KATL	Runway Surface Type:	Concrete
Airport Elevation:	1026 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	26R	IFR Approach:	Unknown
Runway Length/Width:	9000 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information (A1)

Crew Injuries:	6 None	Aircraft Damage:	Minor
Passenger Injuries:	160 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	166 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.640288,-84.427529(est)

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Wreckage and Impact Information (A2)

Crew Injuries:	7 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	233 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:		Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	240 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.640288,-84.427529(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Bower, Daniel

Additional Participating Persons:

Original Publish Date: February 24, 2022 Investigation Class: 4

Note: This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=99088

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available here.

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