



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

800 Independence Ave., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20591

**DEC 11 2017**

Ragnar Guðmundsson  
Investigator in Charge  
Icelandic Transportation Safety Board  
Hus FBSR, Flugvallarvegi  
101, Reykjavik  
Iceland

Dear Mr. Guðmundsson:

This is our final response to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Safety Recommendation 15.115. This recommendation was issued on August 18, 2015. The Icelandic Transportation Safety Board (ITSB) issued this recommendation as a result of a serious incident. On February 26, 2013, an Icelandair Boeing 757-200 airplane, TF-FIJ, was enroute to Keflavik Airport, on a flight from Copenhagen Airport. At top descent, the airplane's right hydraulic system failed when a hydraulic tube in the wheel well cracked. The flightcrew performed the necessary actions to prepare for landing with inoperative systems as a result of the right hydraulic system failure.

15.115. Research the need for making inspections, and possible replacement, of spoiler actuator's Blocking and Thermal Relief Valve Housing mandatory via issue of airworthiness directive, for Boeing 757 airplanes.

FAA Comment. In response to this recommendation, the FAA published airworthiness directive (AD) 2017-04-07 (enclosed) on February 21, 2017. Our review of the incident determined the cause to be a latent failure of the spoiler Power Control Unit (PCU) Blocking and Thermal Relief Valve housing that will manifest itself when the hydraulic system it is attached to fails. This failure causes an uncommanded extension of the spoiler panel, known as a spoiler panel float. Multiple spoiler panels floating on one wing could result in the loss of control of the airplane. The issued AD mandates replacement of the spoiler PCU.

I believe the FAA has effectively addressed this safety recommendation and consider our actions complete.

The FAA would like to thank the ITSB for submitting FAA Safety Recommendation 15.115 and its continued interest in aviation safety. If you have any questions, or need additional information regarding this safety recommendation, please contact the FAA Safety Recommendations Program staff at [9-AVP-FAA-SafetyRecs@faa.gov](mailto:9-AVP-FAA-SafetyRecs@faa.gov). Alternatively, you may contact Mr. James Knight, AVP-420, at (202) 267-4573.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael J. O'Donnell", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. O'Donnell  
Executive Director, Office of Accident Investigation  
and Prevention

Enclosure