NTSB Statement - UA1175 SFO-HNL 13 February 2018
Name:
Employer: United Airlines (777 First Officer)
Position on UA1175: Flight Deck Jumpseat/ Observer
I was on the flight deck jumpseat
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Approximately 30 minutes away from HNL, at FL360, the aircraft experienced a very loud bang followed by severe airframe vibration. Captain took control of the aircraft and FO started working on the ECL (electronic checklist).
From that point on, I aided and assisted Captain and FO needed, with ATC communications, cabin crew coordination, PA announcements, ECL confirmation/ completion/ review, landing configuration/ performance evaluation, fuel crossfeed/balancing, navigation assistance, and engine/ airframe damage assessment.
The right engine was shutdown, a Mayday call was made, and HCF (Honolulu Control Facility) vectored us to HNL as an emergency aircraft.
Due to continued airframe vibrations, I was sent aft to evaluate the status of the right engine, right wing, & empennage. At the same time, the lead FA came to the flight deck to brief with Captain.
I reported that the right engine was oscillating and the cowling was missing; with no apparent damage to the wing or noticeable fluid leaks but there were rumbling noises & vibrations in the aft galley area. Additionally, I took a live picture and video clip of the right engine with my work iPad to show Captain and FO what we were dealing with.
We continued to HNL, had the cabin prepared, checking controllability as we configured the aircraft, and successfully landed on 8R without further incident. Fire/Rescue inspected the aircraft and we taxied to gate 6.