

ABX Air Flight 1611
San Francisco, CA
June 28, 2008
DCA08MA076

ATTACHMENT 5
Witness Statements
(8 Pages)

Airplane Statement

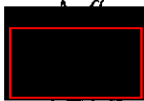
I was standing on the left side of the plane waiting to wing walk. Smoke started to come out of the bottom of the plane and the power of the plane suddenly just went off. Smoke started to come out of the cockpit and one of the pilots threw down the emergency rope and climbed out. Aik yelled "get the stairs", so I ran to get the stairs and backed it up to the left front window of the plane and the other pilot climbed out the window and came down the stairs. I then left the ramp and went into the warehouse.

[REDACTED]

INCIDENT REPORT FLT. 1611/28

On Jun. 28th. at about 2206 local time, Josel and I were the last two came down from the A/C after the load plan cross check with the captain. We had been told that he needed about 6-7 minutes to be ready for tow. A/C was closed at about 2208 local time and stairs pulled away. While the ops crew were waiting around the plane, I was doing a final walk around. When I was on the left side of the plane, I heard a pop from the plane and the APU and power were shut off right after. Romeo, the person with the head set and communicate with the pilot point to me about smoke came down from the vent under the plane. At this momet, I looked for the ABX mechanic to inform them what was going on. While I walk under the right side (first officer side) of the cockpit, I heard the first officer shouting FIRE! FIRE!, then he manage to climb down from the cockpit using the emergency escape rope, smoke was coming out from his window. At that moment I call Jim Smith in control center to call fire department and inform him that the A/C was on fire. Then, Sunia pulled the stairs toward the A/C. The captain's window was still closed and we can see he was trying to open it with some kind of light in his hand. I asked the FO if we should place the stairs at the cabin door or the window. He ask Sunia to back up the stairs to the captain's window side so the captain can escape immediately. Captain was able to escape thru the window safely. About 1-2 minute later the Airfield Safety officer was at the scene making sure everybody was safe. The fire engines came not far away from the Airfield Safety officer and took charge of the situation.

AIK GWEE



Weekend Operation Lead

6/29

Last night, I was the headset person to tell the pilot the for clearance. At around 10:15-20, the first thing I noticed was the a loud explosion and some popping sound inside the cockpit, then I saw the smoke coming out from underneath the plane. Minutes later, a white t-shirt was thrown from the top by the pilot on the other side. Then more black smoke underneath the plane and on the cockpit and on the window. One pilot threw a rope and came down while the other pilot still on inside the plane. At the same time while the pilot was still inside and trying to open the widow of for exit. Sunia one of the employee, drove the vehicle and backed up the stair near the window where the second pilot exiting. As both pilot save to the ground, more and more heavy smoke coming out the cockpit, engine, underneath, and though tail of the plane. Also, I heard the some ground crew members and airfield safety calling 911. Seconds later fire trucks, ambulance, and emergency crew arrived and tried to put out the fire. We were then told to evacuate the facility until it was ok to return.

Romeo Balanquit

Incident Report
29 June, 2008

I was on the push tug waiting for the head set person to give me the signal to tow the plane, everything was done chokes and air stairs were already taken out we were just waiting for the flight crew to call the tower for clearance, when all of a sudden I saw a commotion outside so I step out the push tug and when I looked at the cockpit area I saw a smoke coming out and the first officer was climbing down the emergency rope. Then one of our co worker got the stair for the other pilot who got trapped in the cockpit, then the fire crew showed up and we have to vacate the area



Josefito Suarez

06.29.2008

Last night at around 22:15, I was a wing walker on the right side of the plane. Me and Salvador notice a thick white smoke coming out from the belly of the fuselage of the aircraft. Second's after that one of the pilot open the right side window of the cockpit screaming FIRE, FIRE, FIRE and immediately throw the rope down and used the rope to escape the tragedy. After that me and Salvador seen an Airfield Operation Officer and flag him down immediately to let him know what was going on with the plane at that time, fire department came and I had left the ramp.



P.M. 10:08

6-28-8

I, SAW SMOKE IN THE BOTTOM
OF THE D.H.L CARGO PLANE. FOR ABOUT,
15 TO 20 SECONDS. IT SUDDENLY IT DISSA
PEAR.

AFTER THAT I SAW THE PILOT
OPEN THE COCKPIT WINDOW, THE SMOKE
COMMING UP. THEN THE PILOT START
THROWING THE ESCAPE ROPE TO COME
DOWN THE PLANE. START YELLING FIRE,
FIRE, FIRE, DONT PANIC, DONT PANIC
DONT PANIC, I KEEP SHOUTING SUNIA,
MY CO-WORKER ~~HE~~ TO GET THE STAIR
TO RESCUE THE OTHER PILOT.

THE WING WALKER
SALVADOR PAYONGAYONG



Accident Report

June 29, 2008

This is to inform you that, I was informed by Joselito Barrion at 22:11 that the plane was on fire, when I arrived to the ramp the fire department was already there trying to put out the fire.

There was a lot of smoke coming out of the cockpit, after a few minutes I saw smoke coming out from the rear of the plane at which point I evacuated all my employees.

James Fernandez



Weekend Lead

Eugene Cozzoli (DHL US)

From: Bijan Nasibi (DHL US)
Sent: Sunday, June 29, 2008 11:52 AM
To: Eugene Cozzoli (DHL US); Rob A Parker (DHL US); Matthew Alden (DHL US)
Subject: 1611 Fire Incident

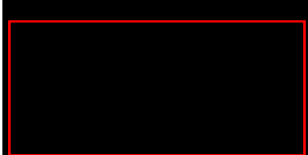
Aircraft fire on 06/27/08

Around 22:10 I was notified by Joselito Suarez that our Aircraft N799AX is on fire. Fire department and Airfield safety was already present, control center notified NCG. According to Aik Gwee the ramp lead agent, the co-pilot popped out the front window and started to climb down from the emergency escape rope that he hanged from the aircraft window then Sunia Malolo drove the stairs close to the window and the captain was able to get out from the window and take the stairs. We started to evacuate the building right away. By 2300 hours we were able to get back to the building. The Airfield safety blocked the area around the plane and told us not to get close to the plane until further notice. We are not allowed to gain access to the freight, till the investigation is done. The fire captain told the ABX mechanic David Ramirez to open the main deck cargo door to inspect the cargo. After many attempts to open the door the ABX mechanics were not successful in opening the main deck cargo door. By 02:30 the fire captain stated that he is going to leave one fire truck here till the investigators are done with the reports. I told security to stay by the plane for the whole time to secure the area and watch any new sparks or fire. Everyone is accounted for and there was no report of injury.

Regards,

Bijan Nasibi
Weekend Operations Supervisor

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San Francisco, CA, 94128



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7/1/2008