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COMISIÓN DE
INVESTIGACIÓN
DE ACCIDENTES
E INCIDENTES DE
AVIACIÓN CIVIL

Interim Statement EXT A-006/2014

Accident occurred to aircraft Boeing B-737-800, registration EI-ENB, operated by RYANAIR, in the vicinity of Toulouse (France) on 23 June 2014



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DE ESPAÑA

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SUBSECRETARÍA

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Important notice

This document constitutes the interim statement envisioned in Article 16.7 of Regulation (EU) no. 996/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as well as in paragraph 6.6 of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation. The statement includes the details of the progress of the investigation and the most important operational safety issues revealed to date. The information provided herein is subject to change as the investigation proceeds.

Pursuant to the contents of Regulation (EU) no. 96/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council and of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, the investigation is purely technical in nature and is not intended to determine or apportion blame or liability. The investigation is being conducted without necessarily resorting to evidentiary procedures and for the sole purpose of preventing future accidents.

Consequently, the use of this information for any purpose other than to prevent future accidents may result in faulty conclusions or interpretations.

Abbreviations

ATPL(A)	Air transport pilot license (Aircraft)
CPL(A)	Comercial pilot license (Aircraft)
FL	Flight level
h	Hour(s)
Lb	Pound(s)
NAV	Navigation
NM	Nautical mile(s)
s	Second(s)
UTC	Universal Time Coordinated

DATA SUMMARY**LOCATION**

Date and time	Monday, 23 June 2014, 16:38 UTC
Site	Vicinity of Toulouse (France)

AIRCRAFT

Registration	EI-ENB
Type and model	BOEING B-737-800
Operator	Ryanair

Engines

Type and model	CFM 56-7B/3
Number	2

CREW

	Captain	First Officer
Age	48 years	25 years
License	ATPL (A)	CPL (A)
Total flight hours	8500 h	1500 h
Flight hours on the type	7400 h	1300 h

INJURIES

	Fatal	Serious	Minor / None
Crew			6
Passengers		1	162
Third persons			

DAMAGE

Aircraft	None
Third parties	N/A

FLIGHT DATA

Operation	Commercial Air Transport - Scheduled - International - Passenger
Phase of flight	En route

REPORT

Date of approval	27 May 2015
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1. SUMMARY OF THE FLIGHT

On June 23rd 2014 aircraft Boeing B-737-800, registration EI-ENB and operated by Ryanair, was flying from Dublin airport to Reus airport under callsign RYR4398.

When the aircraft was at about 42 NM to the north from the city of Toulouse and flying on heading 138°, it made a turn to its right to take 165° heading, direct to PUMAL point, which is located near the France-Spain border. In this section, the aircraft would have to overfly the city of Toulouse.

At 16:37:19 UTC, about 7 NM before reaching Toulouse, the crew started to turn to the right in order to avoid a storm cell that was building-up over Toulouse. When the turn was initiated, the aircraft was flying at FL370, at 0,766 Mach, 133.400 lb weight, with both the autopilot in NAV mode and autothrottle on.

The evasive manoeuvre could not avoid the aircraft penetrated in the edge of the storm, so it was affected by the characteristic turbulences of these atmospheric phenomena, which lasted about 30 seconds, beginning at 16:38:11 and finishing at 16:38:41.

As a consequence of the abrupt movements suffered by the aircraft, two passengers (one of them serious) and tree crew members were injured.

The rest of the flight was uneventful, and the aircraft landed at destination airport safely.

The five people injured during the turbulence were evacuated by two ambulances and taken to a hospital.

2. STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The investigation has mainly focused on the following aspects:

- Flight preparation. Weather forecast assessment.
- Flight development and management.
- Company procedures on weather radar use.

3. NEXT STEPS

The investigation has finished and the final report will be published shortly.

