



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

SAFO

Safety Alert for Operators

SAFO 08011
DATE 03/21/08

Flight Standards Service
Washington, DC

http://www.faa.gov/other_visit/aviation_industry/airline_operators/airline_safety/safo

A SAFO contains important safety information and may include recommended action. SAFO content should be especially valuable to air carriers in meeting their statutory duty to provide service with the highest possible degree of safety in the public interest. Besides the specific action recommended in a SAFO, an alternative action may be as effective in addressing the safety issue named in the SAFO.

Subject: Embraer EMB-ERJ-190 — Unintended Deployment of the Emergency Evacuation Escape Slide

Purpose: This SAFO calls attention to the possibility of injury to ground personnel caused by the inadvertent deployment of the emergency evacuation escape slide when opening doors from outside the Embraer Model EMB-ERJ-190 aircraft.

Background: A Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety recommendation was submitted to the Office of Accident Investigation (AAI) informing them of a problem with the Embraer Model EMB-ERJ-190 aircraft's emergency evacuation escape slide and its inadvertent deployment when opening the doors from outside the aircraft. The submitter indicated that the aircraft manufacturer, Embraer, is aware of the problem and has issued Service Bulletins SB 190-52-0004 and SB 190-52-0013. The submitter also notified AAI of an error in the aircraft maintenance manual; page 4 of chapter 52-11-00 states "When the door is opened from the outside the emergency-evacuation slide release mechanism is disabled automatically." Embraer has issued Service Newsletter SNL 190-52-0001 in the interim to correct this error until the information is incorporated in the next revision of the manual.

Recommended Action: Directors of safety and directors of operations should immediately make this hazard known to their flight crews and all ground personnel. Additionally, directors of operations should ensure that proper door opening policies and procedures are stated in their manual and followed. Directors of maintenance should review the referenced service bulletins for incorporation of the recommended modifications in their aircraft. Additionally, directors of maintenance should immediately notify maintenance personnel of the aircraft maintenance manual error and the interim correction stated in the service newsletter.

Any questions regarding the content of this SAFO should be directed to the Aircraft Maintenance Division, AFS-300, at (202) 267-5012.