

October 2011

Bird Strike

The issue of a potential health risk to personnel involved in maintenance tasks following a bird strike has been discussed with bio-safety specialists at the World Health Organization and, while the risk is remote, the following general measures are recommended:

- Wear disposable gloves
- If body contact is unavoidable while cleaning the engine, wear a disposable coverall, a face mask and eye protection.
- Do not use air or water under pressure to clean the part of the aircraft that was hit by the bird (it can create aerosols).
- Remove the bird remains and put them in a plastic bag.
- Do not touch face, eyes, nose, etc. with your gloves.
- Remove the gloves, the disposable coverall and mask (if used) and put them in the same plastic bag as the remains and seal the bag.
- Dispose of the bag as for normal garbage.
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides detailed guidelines for bird strike in "affected areas". These guidelines can be reviewed on the following CDC website:

http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/avian-flu-bird-collisions.htm