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Bird Strike Statistics can be meaningful: The CSL Analysis

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This analysis of UK civil bird strike data from 1976 to 1990 was first reported to BSCE in Helsinki and received a mixed response. This was possibly because the paper had not been seen before its presentation in the Plenary Session. The work is complete and the finished book is available at this meeting. The findings of this work present a more useful interpretation of the bird strike problem on an aerodrome than does the simple collation of an annual total presented as a rate per 10,000 movements. Although comparisons will naturally be made between aerodromes, the analyses have been designed to give airport management a better indication of their own problem and control effectiveness.

In Helsinki, the new analyses were demonstrated using data from two real airports labelled *A* and *B*. The same airports are used here but with a further five year's data. In addition, an example is given which reveals a correlation between bird control effort applied at an aerodrome and a reduction in high risk bird strikes. This is one of the most important findings of this work and can possibly give financial justification for aerodrome bird control. This has always been a problem for aerodrome management as aerodrome bird control is an attempt to prevent a situation which cannot be proved will occur if no action is taken. In addition, it cannot be proved that using all the mitigation measures that are available will prevent the next bird strike.

The use of a single statistic can give very misleading information about an aerodrome's bird problem and the standard of bird control. The examples for the two aerodromes above give a more informed impression but, still only represent one aspect in the control of the bird problem to aircraft and, should be regarded together with other measures available to management. These include regular monitoring of the airfield bird population, routine examination of the control measures; examining such items as quality management, staff training levels, staff and management motivation etc.

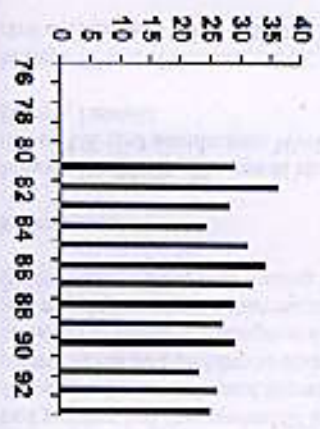
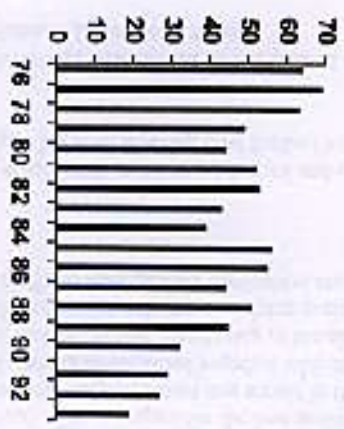
References:

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Key Words: Statistics, Civil Aviation, Airport, Risk Assessment, Reporting, Control Methods

Two year rolling total of aerodrome birdstrikes.



- Aerodrome A has had a steady decline in birdstrikes per year.
- Aerodrome B has maintained a steady rate.



Which is the better airport?