

Bird Strikes

Airports and RWys attract birds and animals. The risk for the aircraft to interfere and collide with them on take-off and landing is very high. This can have very serious *unavoidable* consequences ['kɒnsɪkwənsɪz]

When birds collide with an aircraft we call it a bird strike. Bird strikes can cause fatal accidents and significant damage of aircraft. Birds cannot see the plane and avoid it as it flies too fast. Bird strikes can happen at any time but in majority of cases they happen when aircraft are flying at 3000 feet or less. The danger is great after take-off and during the landing.

Speaking about bird strikes we should mention:

- engine ingestion – when a bird is sucked into one of the engines and
- multiple strike – that is ingestion of a flock of birds.

In case of bird strikes a pilot must shut down the engine and follow the same procedures as in case of engine failure.

Airport take special measures to frighten birds away.

They often emit [ɪ'mɪt] high frequency sounds to frighten birds away. Aerodrome staff should inspect the RWys carefully, pilots must alert the controllers when they observe birds in the vicinity of the aerodrome.