



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

800 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20591

July 3, 2023

Mr. Chris van Dam
Chairman
Dutch Safety Board
PO Box 95404
2509 CK The Hague
The Netherlands

Dear Chairman van Dam:

This letter is our initial response to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Safety Recommendation 23.018 received on April 25, 2023. The Dutch Safety Board (DSB) issued this recommendation as a result of the aircraft accident that occurred on February 20, 2021, when a Boeing 747-400 experienced a contained engine failure during the initial climb out from Runway 21 at Maastricht Aachen Airport (MST) in the Netherlands. The engine failure caused parts of the engine to exit the engine's tail pipe and come down in the village of Meerssen, which is located approximately 2 kilometers south of the end of Runway 21. The engine parts injured two people and damaged property, such as houses and cars. After the flight crew had shut down the engine, they diverted to Liege Airport (LGG) in Belgium, where a safe landing was made.

23.018. Reconsider whether Service Bulletin 72-462, in light of third party risk, should be made mandatory through an Airworthiness Directive.

FAA Comment. The FAA is currently reviewing the DSB's report and current FAA guidance in order to determine an appropriate action plan to address this safety recommendation.

I anticipate providing an updated response to this safety recommendation by May 31, 2024.

The FAA would like to thank the DSB for submitting FAA Safety Recommendation 23.018 and its continued interest in aviation safety. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this safety recommendation, please contact the FAA Safety Recommendations Program staff at [REDACTED]@faa.gov. Alternatively, you may contact [REDACTED], AVP-420, at (202) [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

**WARREN S
RANDOLPH** Digitally signed by
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Aviation Safety
Executive Director,
Office of Accident Investigation and Prevention