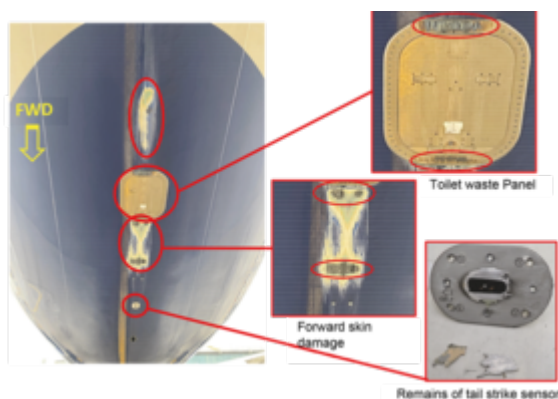


[AAIB Report: Airbus A350-1041 \(G-XWBC\), tailstrike during go-around, London Heathrow Airport](#)

News story

During an approach into London Heathrow Airport on 2 January 2022, the aircraft floated along the runway and then, during a go-around, the aircraft's tail struck the ground.



The aircraft was approaching Runway 27L at London Heathrow Airport at the end of a flight from Dubai. During the flare for landing the aircraft “floated” and the crew believed it would not land within the runway Touchdown Zone (TDZ). A go-around was initiated from low height and speed; the subsequent pitch rate caused the aircraft to reach a nose-up attitude sufficient to cause a tailstrike. The aircraft subsequently landed safely and there were no injuries to crew or passengers.

The investigation found that a go-around was initiated from low height and low speed. The aircraft had insufficient energy to climb immediately and so touched down during the go-around process. The pitch rate induced by the co-pilot caused the aircraft to reach a nose up attitude sufficient to cause a tailstrike as the aircraft touched down.

[Read the report.](#)

Media enquiries call: 01932 440015 or 07814 812293

Published 18 August 2022