

4. Conclusion

As stated so far, in cases where evacuation slides were used, a fairly large number of the passengers suffered injuries during evacuation.

The highest priority to design evacuation slides is placed on the prompt evacuation to ensure passengers' life in an emergency such as a fire. Therefore, the injured during an evacuation cannot be eliminated. However, the injured can be reduced by taking a proper evacuation posture and by having helpers to provide assistance at the bottom end of the evacuation slide.

We should be sure to check the safety guidance card and the safety video when boarding on an airplane. As mentioned in the card and the video, it is important to use an evacuation slide without your hand baggage. The hand baggage may tear the evacuation slide, or may hit other passengers to cause injuries. Otherwise, if there are passengers who attempt to evacuate with carrying hand baggage, cabin attendants have to spend the time to take the baggage away them, which hinders their primary duties of assisting evacuation. One airline company said exactly how to obtain cooperation from passengers remains a matter to be addressed, because there is a limitation to what cabin attendants can do by themselves.

It is not too much to say that the passengers' cooperation is actually the key to prevent injuries during an emergency evacuation.

Tip from the Director for Analysis, Recommendation and Opinion

Aircraft accidents are something we rarely encounter throughout our life and also something we do not want to encounter.

From what I hear, even if we take an aircraft every day, the probability of encountering an accident is at most once in several hundred years. In this sense, we could say that an aircraft is a very safe means of transportation.

However, even if it is a rare occasion, it is very important to prepare assuming that you could be in an accident.

This should be kept in mind not only by people who engage in the air transport business but also by people who use aircrafts. This JTSB Digests introduced cases where evacuation slides were deployed.

There are many orders that passengers must obey when using an evacuation slide, such as not carrying baggage and taking off high heels.

It will increase the risk of causing more damage, if even one person thinks that sliding down while carrying his/her baggage is not a big deal.

The public transportation users including aircrafts may tend to be passive with respect to securing safety, but we hope that each of you keep in mind that there are things you can and should do.

[We welcome your comments on "JTSB Digests"](#)

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