

Red Wings Crash Survivor Released From Hospital

By The Moscow Times

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The first of the only three survivors of last month's plane crash at Vnukovo airport was released from hospital Monday.

Kristina Baranova, 26, was working as an air stewardess on board a Tu-204 plane when the pilot lost control during a Dec. 29 landing procedure and the aircraft crashed at the edge of the airport, scattering debris across the nearby highway.

Four crew members, including the pilots, were killed outright and a fifth person died the following day. The other two survivors, Dmitry Vinokurov, 24, and Alexei Izosimov, 32, remain in hospital, Interfax reported. Vinokurov is still in a critical condition.

There has as yet been no official version of why the aircraft, operated by the Red Wings airline that is owned by billionaire Alexander Lebedev, overshot the runway.

But the likely reason for the disaster was technical and a failure of the plane's braking system, according to multiple media reports citing anonymous investigators.

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