

Superjet Fails to Take Off

By The Moscow Times

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A Sukhoi Superjet 100 at Sheremetyevo Airport suffered an engine malfunction and didn't take off, Interfax reported, a setback that further clouds the future of Russia's first post-Soviet civilian airplane.

The Superjet program hit uncertainty last year after one of its planes crashed in Indonesia during a promotional flight. Investigators said the crash was due to pilot error and an equipment deficiency at the airport.

Aeroflot, the only airline operating the aircraft so far, grounded four of its 10 Superjets earlier this month due to technical problems.

The Sunday evening flight from Moscow to the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv was called off after the plane had started gaining speed to take off, Interfax reported Monday, quoting a source at the airport's air traffic control service.

(Reuters)

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