

## Regulator Has Issues With Superjet Safety

By The Moscow Times

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Aeroflot had taken delivery of its sixth Sukhoi Superjet 100 regional airliner. Ronnie Macdonald

Aeroflot said Tuesday that it had taken delivery of its 6th Sukhoi Superjet 100 regional airliner, while the country's air safety regulator expressed concerns about the model's safety.

The Interstate Aviation Committee, or IAC, on Monday said on its website that it had notified the maker of the Superjet, United Aircraft Corporation, about "issues related to the safe operation of the RRJ-95B [Superjet 100]," RIA Novosti reported.

The problems were uncovered during tests conducted in collaboration with the Federal Air Transport Agency and other agencies to investigate a "substantial increase in the number of incidents connected with the RRJ-95B."

The IAC statement did not specify the issues identified in the tests.

Another midrange jet liner, the Tupolev Tu-204, was even less fortunate. The IAC said it was

considering suspending production of the aircraft over structural problems with its horizontal tail stabilizers.

The Superjet 100 is built by Sukhoi Civil Aircraft, owned by United Aircraft Corp., in cooperation with US and European partners to compete in the medium-haul airliner market.

The plane entered into commercial service two years ago and can seat up to 110 passengers.

In May 2012, one of the planes crashed into a mountainside in Indonesia during a promotional flight killing all 45 people on board. In July, a Superjet 100 made a belly-landing in Iceland when its landing gear failed to extend.

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