

Airlines ordered to reduce ice risk

Ice is suspected of having caused the crash in December of a SAS MD-80 jetliner in Sweden. The FAA* has ordered airlines flying these aircraft to adopt new safety procedures

1. During flight

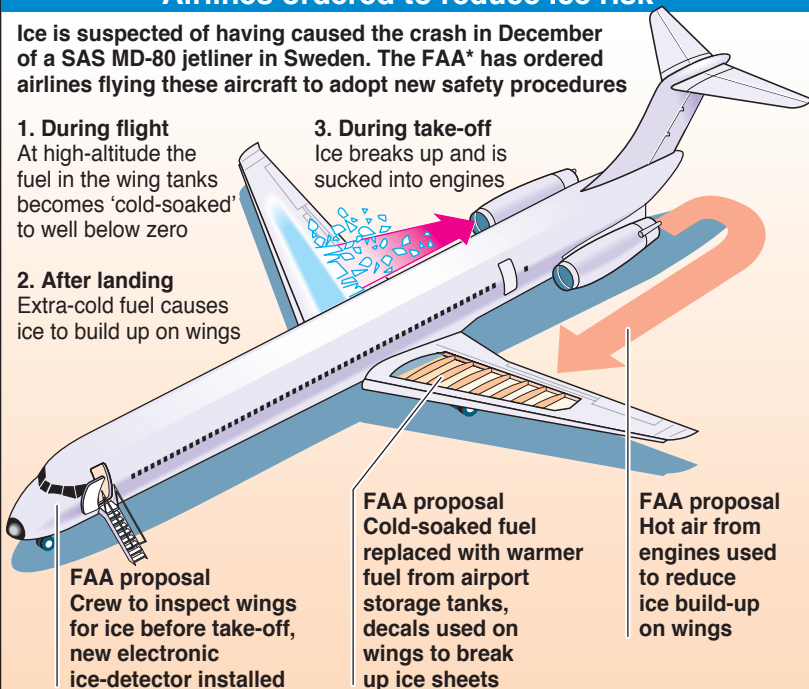
At high-altitude the fuel in the wing tanks becomes 'cold-soaked' to well below zero

2. After landing

Extra-cold fuel causes ice to build up on wings

3. During take-off

Ice breaks up and is sucked into engines



FAA proposal
Crew to inspect wings for ice before take-off, new electronic ice-detector installed

FAA proposal
Cold-soaked fuel replaced with warmer fuel from airport storage tanks, decals used on wings to break up ice sheets

FAA proposal
Hot air from engines used to reduce ice build-up on wings

* Federal Aviation Administration.
There are 625 McDonnell Douglas MD-80 aircraft in service worldwide