

Bashkirian airlines seeks ATC damages from Germany

07/07/2005

Bashkirian Airlines is seeking \$3.3m in a civil action which alleges breaches of surveillance and air safety by the German government. On July 1, 2002 the Russian Tupolev jet collided mid-air with a DHL plane over Ueberlingen in southwest Germany killing 71 people. At the time of the accident the planes were being controlled by a Swiss air traffic controller from the Skyguide agency, which controls southern Germany.

The Russian regional airline claims that since the German government passed air traffic control to a Swiss firm, it bears full responsibility.

In 2004 Skyguide admitted responsibility for the disaster and that June reached an agreed settlement to pay compensation to the families of 28 victims, reportedly \$150,000 dollars, per family.

This followed a November 2003 compensation agreement between Skyguide and families of 15 other victims including crew members.

Thank you for printing this article from Airfinance Global, your essential intelligence resource for aviation finance. If you have been given this article by a subscriber, you can contact us through email at accountmanager@airfinanceglobal.com or call us on +44 (0)20 7779 8015 to discuss our subscription options.