

EVACUATION SLIDE FACTS IN 90 SECONDS

The FAA requires that an aircraft must be evacuated of all passengers in 90 seconds using at least 50% of the exits.

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Off-wing evacuation slides must inflate within 15 seconds after initial deployment.

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Airbus estimated that Inadvertent Slide Deployment (ISD) can cost up to US \$200,000 per incident if a flight is cancelled due to this reason.

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The majority of evacuation slides must be removed every 3 years for inspection by an authorised repair facility.

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Evacuation slides are required on all commercial passenger aircraft doors where the floor is 6 ft (1.8m) or more above the ground.

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Door evacuation slides must be inflated within a maximum of 2-10 seconds after initial deployment, depending on the aircraft size.

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Evacuation slides must be able to support 60 people per sliding lane per minute and must be capable of deployment in 25 knot winds from any direction.

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According to IATA ISD costs the industry more than US \$20 million per year.

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The service life of an evacuation system is typically 12-18 years.

Evacuation Slide History



1954

The first aircraft evacuation slide was invented by James F. Boyle Sr., Air Cruisers founder, after submitting his patent for an inflatable escape chute in 1954.



1965

The first inflatable escape slide and raft were invented by Jack Grant while working at Qantas.



1966

Further improvements in the efficiency of the aspirators that inflate the slides - reduced inflation times.



1971

Incorporation of raft features put into escape slide operation.



2022

Modern technology and materials have led to slides that are burn, fluid and food resistant and now accommodate all altitudes, landing positions and airplane heights further increasing evacuation safety.