

## HOOKLINE

Denial, collusion and secret deals...

What the aviation industry hasn't told you.

# SYNOPSIS

Former British Airways pilot, Captain Tristan Loraine, exposes a longhidden design flaw in aircraft that allows toxic chemicals to contaminate the air we breathe in flight.

Through secret documents, expert testimony, and shocking personal accounts, he uncovers the health risks facing both crew and passengers and asks why the aviation industry still refuses to monitor cabin air, despite decades of warnings.



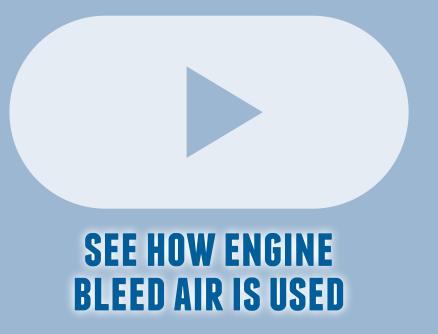
# ENGINE BLEED **Auxiliary Power Unit**

### WHY Now?

Like asbestos, smoking, thalidomide and many other scandals that big corporations have tried to cover up, Tristan Lorraine has tried to uncover and bring about change to make air travel safer for everyone.

Between 2010 and early 2025. The rate of toxic fume events has soared. In 2014, the Journal found about 12 fume events per million departures. By 2024, the rate had jumped to nearly 108.

Based on a review of more than one million FAA and NASA reports, thousands of pages of documents and research papers and more than 100 interviews - aircraft manufacturers and airlines have played down health risks, successfully lobbied against safety measures, and made cost-saving changes that increase the risks to crew and passengers.



# DIRECTOR'S VISION

All film's have a background story. I was 44 when my dream career as an airline pilot came to an end. I was a captain for one of the most prestigious airlines in the world, I had flown Concorde and yet what I thought was the safest industry in the world was not what it seemed. The air, I and the passengers were breathing on an aircraft was being contaminated with engine oil decomposition products and toxic organophosphates.

I went from doing Ironman triathlons to being unable to run a mile in under 6 months. I had brain fog, tingling in my hands and feet, nausea and countless chest infections. A dozen doctors told me that my adverse health effects were linked to my working environment.

My employer claimed there was no long term health effects on grounds of ill health after 20 years of exemplary service. On researching the issue, I discovered the industry knew all about the design flaw. Air accident investigation agencies found crews becoming impaired and incapacitated in flight due to toxic exposures and called for contaminated air warning systems to be fitted to aircraft - but the industry ignored them.

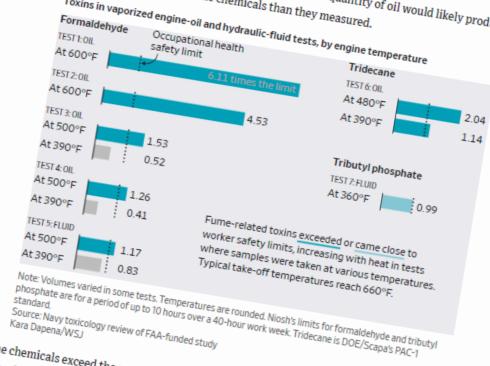
Susan Michaelis became my wife in 2021 and a few weeks later was diagnosed with terminal lobular breast cancer that her doctors linked to her chemical exposures as a pilot.

Nearly twenty years ago, after being ill health retired, I retrained as a film maker at Raindance and the National Film and Television School to be able tell this vitally important story.



A few months before, Chesson and her husband had undergone a full medical review as part of the process to become foster parents. Hers came back with a near clear bill of health. mir A brain scan after the fume event ruled out THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

d them to a bigger event, he said. "Then they have one that's the straw that breaks ■ 15 largest U.S. airlines 
■ Largest three that fly both A320s and 737s requirements for fume events vaiority-Airbus operators—the increase is stark. Together, the of incidents on their A320s between 2016 and 2024. protocols as established by Airbus At JetBlue But a recent FAA-funded study found two chemicals that can: formaldehyde, a known carcinogen and neurotoxin, and tridecane, which can cause headaches and stupor. Another, an airlines sa organophosphate called tributyl phosphate, was right at the limit, according to a Navy A Spirit toxicologist's review of the findings. The analysis assessed 129 chemicals of which 40 have yet and th Researchers also said that a real-world leak of the same quantity of oil would likely produce



"The chemicals exceed the worker threshold, which means they far exceed the threshold to the general public," said Joseph Allen, an air quality specialist at Harvard University who has Worked on previous FAA-funded bleed air studies. "It's clear to me that there's concerning data in these studies and it's inappropriately downplayed."

How much oil leaks in a fume event can range from small droplets to liters. Researchers could only be confident that the amount of oil tested fell somewhere between those extremes, said

Still, Jones, a now-retired engineering specialist at Kansas State University, said enough research has now been done. "It's time to start doing whatever the next step is going to be," he

duties. Brightwell Sen. Richard (D., Calif.). Where mpt last year also drew objections fi (D., Conn.), who introduced the bill with Rep. John Garan. al bill asked for sensors and dedicated investigations, the final law requires only new

's no problem, they should have nothing to fear installing detectors and monitors,"

FAA in a statement said it had made progress addressing those new requirements.

gress is trying again. A bipartisan bill reintroduced last month would phase out the use of ed air and require specialized filters on aircraft within seven years.

#### 'I don't have time for bitterness.'

In early June, Susan Michaelis, a 62-year-old former pilot, sat in her garden at her home an hour south of London wearing blue-and-white striped shorts that exposed a tattoo of a heart on each ankle. She was connected to an oxygen supply via a translucent green cable she referred to



SPECIAL REPORT

CHEMICAL CORPS MEDICAL LABORATORIES

CCOMPLISHED?FIM PROC.21-00-21-00 FIG.105 C/P D60 DUE TO SHIELDING DAMAGED FOR

UND OIL BEHIND #1 ENG SPINNER

BEARING MANIFOLD, LEAK+OPS CHECKS 8832050

251 Type: Non-Routine Line Log

"The effects are extraordinarily similar to those of a National Football League linebacker after a brutal hit. It's impossible not to draw that conclusion."

Robert Kaniecki **Consultant Neurologist - Pittsburgh Steelers** 



Podcast with the director by global travel consultant Simon Calder on contaminated air.



# TECH SPEC

ASPECT: 1.78:1
AUDIO: ENGLISH STEREO
RUN TIME: 2x55' or 1x106'

TRISTAN LORAINE & SANDRA SKIBSTED

PRODUCED BY

TRISTAN LORAINE

\* FACT NOT FICTION FILMS LTD.

[SCREENBOUND]