AMERICAN ACCIDENTALLY SENDS UNCERTIFIED PLANE TO HAWAII

News / Airlines

American Airlines confirms to CNN that it accidentally put anAirbus A321S aircraft -- that was **not certified** to fly over the Pacific -- on a long-haul flight from Los Angeles to Hawaii, reports Look News which quotes CNN.

American spokesman Casey Norton said "someone on the ground" realized the mix-up sometime after AA Flight 31 had departed LAX on August 31st, filled with passengers and crew. American Airlines declined to identify who first noticed the mistake.

Norton said American immediately notified the flight crew and the Federal Aviation Administration and the decision was made to allow the crew to complete the flight, and the plane landed safely in Honolulu.

Hawaii-bound aircraft are required by the FAA to have extra fire suppression equipment in the

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cargo hold and extra medical equipment on board, including oxygen -- since there are no points in between for an aircraft to divert to if there is an on board emergency. American Airlines said the correct aircraft, the A321-H, was just put into service on August 18th.

Norton said the new plane was part of the airline's long-term strategy to upgrade service, and it replaced a Boeing757 that flew that route up until last month.

"Somebody screwed up big-time, somewhere," an American Airlines pilot, who is not authorized to speak on the record, told CNN.

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