

# **Freighter Fire Protection During Smoke/Fire/Fume Events**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The past few years have seen a significant increase of fires onboard cargo aircraft. Studies conducted by government agencies indicate this trend will continue due to continuing consumer demand for battery-powered devices. If a fire onboard an aircraft occurs, pilots of cargo aircraft have little or no ability to go to the source of the fire and extinguish it. With no means to go directly to the source of a fire and extinguish it, the source of smoke becomes continuous. Furthermore, the main deck of a freighter aircraft does not have a suppression system, only a detection system to notify the flight crew.

UPS and the Independent Pilots Association (IPA) have formed a Safety Task Force to address these concerns. In this presentation, you will learn about the importance of full-face oxygen masks and cockpit smoke vision systems, enhancements to training and checklist design as well as efforts underway to incorporate Fire Containment Covers (FCC) and fire resistant Unit Load Devices (ULD) into an airline environment. Furthermore, information about efforts by UPS to certify a ULD with a suppression system will be shared. Finally, we hope to provide thought provoking questions to industry and regulators about aircraft certification requirements and the need to develop timely solutions.