Halon 1301 Contamination in Commercial Aviation

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Halon 1301 has been used in commercial aviation fire suppression for decades and will likely be an important part of the industry for at least another decade or two. Halon 1301 currently installed on the world's aviation fleet, estimated to be approximately 8 million pounds, has been recycled at least twice to comply with both FAA and US DOT system servicing regulations. Data collected over the past five years shows a significant amount of Halon 1301 to be contaminated (i.e., product that does not meet ASTM purity specifications.) It is unclear whether this halon is contaminated while on the plane or becomes contaminated during the onground handling process. This presentation will discuss the data collection, its implications for future halon supplies and what can be done to prevent further contamination.