Study regarding:
Fire Extinguishing/Suppression Agents’ Quality Processes

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Overview

• Background
• Objective
• 2 Phases:
  – Data Acquisition
  – Assessment
• Summary/Status
Background (Why..?)

• Instances of contaminated Halons (particularly in handheld extinguishers)
• Questions re. adequacy of the processes in place to assure that extinguishing/suppression agents in aircraft systems meet pertinent purity standards and perform as intended
• ICAO recommendation to its member States for better oversight of the quality compliance of re-cycled Halons
Objective

• Investigate means to minimize the probability that ‘contaminated’ extinguishing/suppression agents will be installed on aircraft

TCCA-funded study in partnership with FAA and UK CAA, in cooperation with EASA
Phase 1

• Acquire the specifics of the various processes currently in use (in North America & Europe), and map out the supply chains (and variants) for the different ‘applications’

To consider:

• From gas ‘production’ to filled vessels installed (/certified) on aircraft
• New and recycled agents
• Maintenance events
Phase 2

- Assess identified processes, determine *best practices* – as well as deficiencies and ‘gaps’/issues’ – and develop standardized protocols

To consider:

- Intentional as well as non-intentional contamination potential
- Impact (cost & benefit)
- Minimization of regulatory burden
Summary/Status

• Study aimed at identifying means to minimize the likelihood of non-compliant agents being installed on aircraft
• Joint effort between TCCA, FAA and UK CAA in cooperation with EASA
• Contract issued to R.G.W. Cherry & Associates Ltd (UK)
• We seek this WG’s support (‘focus group’)

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Thank You..!