

25/2010

**Applicability:** All Aeroplane AOC Holders

## OVEN FIRES

### 1 Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this FODCOM is to remind operators of the precautions to be taken to reduce the risk of aircraft oven fires.

### 2 Issue

2.1 The CAA's Mandatory Occurrence Reporting Scheme has recently identified a significant number of incidents where the burning or overheating of aircraft oven contents, or spillages within the oven, have resulted in smoke being evident in the cabin.

2.2 The recent increase in the number of occurrences may be a result of the varied selection of food items that are now available on board an aircraft.

2.3 Such occurrences could be minimised by ensuring that catering packaging is suitable for use in aircraft ovens and by robust inspections of ovens both for cleanliness and for the presence of foreign objects. Specific regard should be given to ensuring that the packaging and attached labelling on catering products are capable of being subject to the requisite oven temperatures without degradation, distortion or combustion.

### 3 Recommendations

3.1 Operators should ensure that when introducing new catering products, the packaging is fit for purpose.

3.2 Operators should review their procedures to ensure they reflect the guidance contained in CAP 789 for checks to be carried out on ovens by the cabin crew.

3.3 Operators should ensure that such procedures are incorporated into the scope of their quality monitoring inspections.

### 4 Queries

4.1 Any queries as a result of this Flight Operations Communication should be addressed to the operator's Flight Operations Inspector (FOI), or for those who do not have an assigned FOI to the Head of Flight Operations Policy at the following e-mail address: [FOP.Admin@caa.co.uk](mailto:FOP.Admin@caa.co.uk).

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