

**COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS
AVIATION ADVISORY CIRCULAR**

No. 0179

2000.12.22

Replacement of Halon Hand-held Fire Extinguishers on Board Aircraft

INTRODUCTION

This *Commercial and Business Aviation Advisory Circular* (CBAAC) is intended to inform air operators that there are no substitutes to Halon hand-held fire extinguishers approved for use on board aircraft.

REFERENCES

Sections 525.851, 551.400, 604.41, 705.93 and paragraph 602.60(1)(c) of the *Canadian Aviation Regulations* (CARs).

BACKGROUND

Aircraft operating under Part VI, Subpart 4 and Part VII, Subpart 5 of the CARs are required to have hand-held fire extinguishers that contain Halon 1211 or its equivalent.

The Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer resulted in the cessation of Halon production as of December 31, 1993. For this reason, alternative fire extinguishing agents will need to have been certified once available supplies of Halon are depleted.

Accordingly, the International Halon Replacement Working Group was formed in October of 1993. The mandate of the Working Group is to determine if safe and effective substitute agents can be used to replace Halon 1211 and 1301 in aircraft and to develop certification criteria for approval of Halon replacement agents and systems.

Recently, some air operators have been informed by suppliers of fire extinguishers that acceptable substitutes for Halon are available and that they can be used as an alternative to the Halon 1211 hand-held fire extinguishers.

While there are substitutes for Halon commercially available, **to date none of these agents have been approved as a substitute for Halon hand-held fire extinguishers used on board aircraft.**

Supplies of Halon are still available as a recycled product and in fire extinguishers manufactured and stored prior to the manufacturing ban. Information on locating supplies of Halon may be found by contacting the Halon Bank, which is a

clearinghouse service administered by the Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada (ULC):

Phone: (416) 757-3611

Fax: (416) 757-1781

E-mail: ulcinfo@ulc.ca

CONCLUSION

Operators should coordinate with their regional Transport Canada, Maintenance & Manufacturing Branch prior to replacing their Halon hand-held fire extinguishers with a Halon substitute to confirm the substitute is acceptable for use on board aircraft.

M.R. Preuss
Director
Commercial & Business Aviation

Commercial & Business Aviation Advisory Circulars (CBAAC) are intended to provide information and guidance regarding operational matters. A CBAAC may describe an acceptable, but not the only, means of demonstrating compliance with existing regulations. CBAACs in and of themselves do not change, create any additional, authorize changes in, or permit deviations from regulatory requirements.