

Lithium Battery Fire/Smoke in the Cockpit

Background

The increasing number of Personal Electronic Devices (PED's) carried by passengers and crew on commercial transport aircraft has led to a greater risk of in-flight lithium battery fires. Whilst there is published guidance for cabin fires, some operators do not provide procedures for lithium battery fires in the cockpit.

Because of the unique nature of the cockpit environment, lithium battery fires on the flight deck are likely to have more serious consequences and may therefore require different procedures than fires in the cabin.

IFALPA Position

IFALPA believes that all operators should provide procedures and training for flight crews to respond to smoke or fire from lithium batteries in the flight deck.