

**3rd Fire & Cabin Safety Research Conference - Atlantic city ,
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**coffee or tea + child =
??????**

by Eric ANDLAUER
Email : andlauere@sofreavia.fr

Coffee or tea + child = ??????

- One year ago I was like :
 - JAA
 - Airlines
 - Crews
 - many doctors
 - most persons drinking coffee or tea with children running around.
- Who knows that **"coffee or tea" + child =**

???????

Coffee or tea + child =



Coffee or tea + child = Danger

- Presentation :
 - Case study
 - Survey
 - On going work
 - Early recommendations
 - Conclusions

Coffee or tea what's new

- More and more kids are travelling by air
 - vacation first and last days show a massive increase in child or family proportion among aircraft passengers on some destination
 - Family migration take place on charter like flights
 - More and more kids are travelling long haul
- Early wake up after a long haul flight = danger
 - ◆ cabin is messy
 - ◆ pax are not completely awake
 - ◆ children are lying asleep and awaking
 - ◆ crew is tired

=> **Good environment for accidents**

Coffee or tea Study case 1/4

- Return from French West Indies vacation
- Start of local vacation; during French continental vacation
- Charter flight
- Many families with children
- B747 full up “to the roof”
- At wake up (5 AM French continental time
1 AM West Indies time)
- Mummy, daddy and child (3 years old) on a lateral row. Child sleeping across parents legs

Coffee or tea Study case : 2/4

- The family is two row from galley
- Crew asks : “Coffee or tea?” -> “Coffee please”
- Crew asks previous row passenger to raise his seat
- Crew lays the coffee pot to help passenger
- The coffee pot is destabilised
- The coffee pot falls, opens and
- A full boiling coffee pot is spread on the leg of the child

=>Stupid accident

Coffee or tea Study case : 3/4

- The baby pyjama trousers are taken off.
- The crew apply fresh water on the burned parts
- A large part of the leg is burned (10 Cm high and nearly all around tight).
- The skin is peeling... Nothing really impressive.
- The family is sent after landing to the airport medical centre
- The burn parts are treated with special cream and recovered with gauze and bandage.

Coffee or tea Study case : 4/4

- Family is sent home for the weekend !!!!!
- On Monday
- hospital for 10 days with a threat of skin graft ?

Coffee or tea real danger ?

- Is it a bad luck situation, a stupid accident ?
 - ◆ child against aisle
 - ◆ proximity from galley (very hot and full coffee pot)
 - ◆ unexpected fail
- but:
 - ◆ “little burn” child hospital services are full with coffee, tea or herb tea spillage accident ; most of the time at home.
 - ◆ at Paris hospital two cases in a one year time in an aircraft
 - ◆ Hopefully the baby wears “diaper”...

=> Coffee or tea accident survey

Coffee or tea accident survey 1/3

- Survey description
 - One major European Airline
 - Medical reports from crew to airline medical centre (each time the on board medicine kit is used)
 - Only hot liquid spillage relative cases
 - Length 7 month
 - One page accident description sheet

Coffee or tea accident survey 2/3

- 23 cases of hot liquid spillage (only 2 were not **Tea or coffee** related) all in calm air
- 5 children were burned (including a baby)
- 3 cases of Blistered (in depth burn)
 - 2 adults
 - **1 Child => possibly similar to study case**
- 4 medical assistance (on board or on ground)
- 7 cases during service
 - **including 3 cases of default cups**
- 2 cases of **pot spillage**

Coffee or tea accident survey 2/2

- Conclusion
 - Coffee or tea + child = real danger
 - Consequences are generally underestimated.
 - ◆ Information should be made.
 - ◆ Preventive action should be taken.
 - Treatment should be improved.

Coffee or tea on going work

- Work on prevention
- Work on treatment protocol (with hospital)
- Provide industry with an information paper

Coffee or tea early recommendation 1/2

- Information :
 - authorities
 - operators and crews
 - families
- Prevention :
 - Improve cup reliability
 - Improve pots to limit falls and spillage
 - ◆ fixed thermos +pomp ?
 - Limit “boilers” temperature to 65°C
 - ◆ as at home
 - promote cold drinks only flights
 - ◆ short haul first

Coffee or tea early recommendation 2/2

- Treatment :
 - Study specific cabin adapted treatment (coolgel ?...)
 - Provide operators crew with in flight adapted protocols
 - Provide operators operation with adapted protocols
 - ◆ during flight
 - ◆ after landing
 - Provide airport medical centres with adapted protocols