

# RTCA Update

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**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

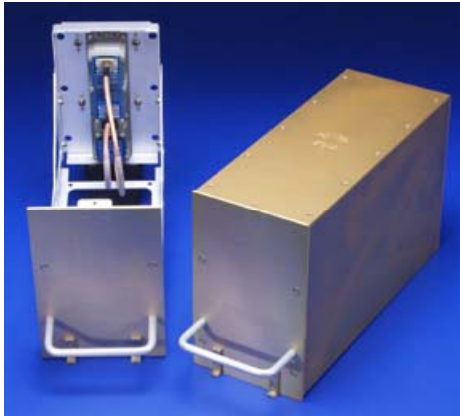


# Background

- New advisory circular (AC21-16F) identifies RTCA Doc. No. (RTCA/DO)-160F as an acceptable means of environmental qualifications for showing compliance with airworthiness requirements.
- The AC excludes Section 26, "Fire and Flammability" as it is not as stringent as FAA accepted methods.
- The AC will be issued this summer.



# Example Enclosures & Components



## ECS LRU Enclosure Design Features

Unique single piece construction to reduce box components and assembly hardware

Available in clear or gold chem film, powder coated (as shown here), black anodized, or any special requested finish

Lightweight aluminum alloy .060" gauge

Durable, rugged construction

Choose from basic shells to fully assembled enclosures complete with system electronics installed



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# Goals of the Working Group

- Draft a new Section 26, Fire and Flammability that will be accepted by the FAA.
- Evaluate currently used accepted methods (such as FAR 25.853, ATIS Standard, etc.) when testing products that use RCTA/DO-160 as a guideline, specifically, enclosures housing small electrical components.
- Discuss the benefit in testing the “box” as installed in the aircraft rather than individual components.
- Define configurations that would be exempt from testing.
- Develop if necessary, new test methods/criteria/procedures.
- Incorporate into the FAA Handbook.