RTCA SC-225: Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery Systems

International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Working Group Bremen, Germany May 14 - 15, 2014

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Background

- RTCA SC-225 was formed to provide certification guidance for lithium batteries and battery systems that are permanently installed in aircraft
- Group has been meeting regularly since March, 2011.
- Points of contact are:
 - Chairperson: Richard Nguyen (Boeing)
 - Secretary: Stephen Diehl (Boeing)
 - DFO: Norm Pereira (FAA)



Background

- Members of SC-225 include representatives from:
 - Battery and cell manufacturers
 - Avionics manufacturers
 - Aircraft operators
 - Pilot and flight attendant associations
 - Regulatory and other government agencies
 - Other related industry associations



Previous Documents

- RTCA/DO-311: "Minimum Operational Performance Standards for Rechargeable Lithium Battery Systems"
 - Published in March, 2008. Prepared by SC-211.
 - Intended for batteries being used as power sources for equipment devices, emergency lighting, and engine/APU starting.
- RTCA/DO-347: "Certification Test Guidance for Small and Medium Sized Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery Systems"
 - Published in December, 2013. Prepared by SC-225.
 - Intended for small and medium sized batteries that are permanently installed on aircraft.
 Battery
 Single Cell
 Multi
 - Defines test requirements based on battery size.

Battery Size	Single Cell Battery	Multi Cell Battery
Very Small	< 2 Wh	< 2 Wh
Small	2 ≤ Wh < 10	2 ≤ Wh < 50
Medium	10 ≤ Wh < 60	$50 \le Wh < 300$



Current Status

- Committee is currently working on document RTCA/DO-311A
 - This is an update to the current DO-311.
 - Will integrate coverage for all sizes of batteries.
 - Will incorporate the latest understanding of lithium battery technology, battery testing and installation guidance.



Questions?

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