Fire Suppression in Class E Cargo Compartments

Presented to: International Aircraft Systems Fire Protection Working Group, Atlantic City, NJ By: Dhaval Dadia, FAA Technical Center Atlantic City, Date: November 16-17, 2011



Federal Aviation Administration

Objective

- Test and Evaluate a Variety of Fire Suppression Options.
- Identify Potential Cost Effective Methods of Controlling Fires.





Options of Suppression Agents

Container Based Agents

- Water
- Novec 1230
- Nitrogen Enriched Air
- Oxygen Starvation
- Aerosol-type Agent
- Fire-Fighting Foam

Zone Based Systems

• Water Mist



Container Based Solutions

- NEA alone was not effective in suppressing the test fires regardless of flow rate and oxygen concentration.
- NEA and water used in combination effectively suppressed the test fires.
- Novec 1230 was able to suppress the fire for a limited period of time.



Oxygen Starvation



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Oxygen Starvation



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Container Based Solution



Test article is being constructed to study zone water mist systems.

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Future Work

- Conduct tests with fire fighting foam.
- Conduct tests with aerosol agent.
- Test fire suppression agents on battery fires.
- Conduct tests with a zone water mist system.

