



Civil Aeronautics administration

Aviation Safety Bulletin

ASB No: 93-043/m

JAN.2, 2004

Subject : A Boeing 747-400 cargo aircraft experienced air turn back due to false fire warning message after take-off.

Background :

1. A Boeing 747-400 cargo aircraft took off from CKS airport and got fire warning message along with fire warning light and could not be reset. Captain decided to returned to CKS airport.
2. After the aircraft landing, the maintenance crew confirmed that the fire warning was a fault message. Further inspection revealed that it was caused by water seeping into the fire warning control card. The aircraft was returned to service after proper handling actions and replacement of the damaged control card as well as satisfactory testing.

Recommendation :

1. Maintenance shall prevent the drainage hole from being blocked in cargo compartment.
2. Proper sealing shall be made at the floor of cargo compartment to prevent water from seeping into the electronic equipment compartment.
3. It shall be taken into consideration that water may penetrate into the electronic equipment compartment during ramp operation on a rainy day. Such operation shall be suspended if it is impossible to preclude the said water penetration.
4. It shall be considered that polyester sheets should be used to cover the pallets during their building in rainy days and to prevent the water from staying on the pallets, which may be brought into the cargo compartment.