



Civil Aeronautics Administration

Aviation Safety Bulletin

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Subject : An electrical cable short circuit above the galley, resulted in a cabin smoke and electrical arcing incident.

Background :

A cabin ceiling smoke occurred in a Boeing airplane of a national registration in cruising phase. Then cabin crew immediately extinguished the hidden fire. Afterwards the flight crew took emergency procedure to divert the flight. After investigation, it was found that above the galley, the electrical cable was squeezed by the edge of the ceiling for a long time. It was thus suspected that the aircraft in operation may cause the rubbing of galley electrical cable against the carbon fiber fabric ceiling and wiring fray which resulted in the occurrence of an electrical arcing.

Recommendations :

According to the recommendations of the Aviation Safety Council, the operators should focus on the following:

1. Strengthen education on maintenance personnel, including APG, ERI, CABIN and other professionals at the time of component replacement, in adherence of parts position identification procedure.
2. Consider the human factor risks when scheduling work orders, and identification of the wire routing on work sheets with appropriate note or warning.
3. Review the work order issuing procedures to ensure the record retention of those works while performing the special check for the preventive maintenance.
4. Establish application timing and method for cabin crew safety and emergency QRH manual to avoid possible omission of response steps in emergency.