

Follow-up Action on Occurrence Report

SERIOUS INCIDENT INVOLVING B737-436, G-DOCH, NEAR CLACTON ON 8 NOVEMBER 2002
(ELECTRICAL WIRING PROBLEMS DURING CRUISE)

CAA FACTOR NUMBER : F35/2004
FACTOR PUBLICATION DATE : 13 July 2004
OPERATOR : BA
CAA OCCURRENCE NUMBER : 2002/08116
AAIB REPORT : Bulletin 6/2004

SYNOPSIS

(From AAIB Report)

Whilst climbing through FL240 the flight crew noticed a small amount of smoke appear on the flight deck, accompanied by a smell of electrical burning. They decided to carry out a diversion but were hampered by difficulties in communications with the cabin crew and locating the appropriate checklist, since it was not clearly identified on the index page of the QRH. Fire damage had occurred to electrical wiring in the area of the 'drop-down' ceiling panel immediately aft of the flight deck door. A braided steel water supply hose to the forward galley had been attached by means of a simple electrical 'tie-wrap' to a wiring loom, and there was evidence of abrasion and arcing between the wires and the hose. This had resulted in the severing and shorting of a number of wires. It was determined that the hose was too long for this application and that the excess length had been looped through this overhead area and then secured by the tie-wrap to adjacent wire bundles. It was not conclusively determined when this had been done but it was most likely that the attachment was simply a short-term expedient while systems were being disconnected and disassembled, and that the error was then missed during reassembly.

FOLLOW UP ACTION

The two Safety Recommendations, made by the AAIB following their investigation, are reproduced below, together with the CAA's responses.

Recommendation 2004-16

It is recommended that the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company review the B737 non-normal checklist for 'Smoke' to ensure that the procedure for smoke on the flight deck is unambiguous and clearly identified in order to give flight crews the best opportunity to locate it in conditions of low visibility.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed

Recommendation 2004-17

It is recommended that the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company review the illustration and text material of the Maintenance Manual relating to the installation of the forward galley installation in the B737-400, and any other affected model, to give clear instruction as to where the galley water supply hose disconnection should be made when removing the galley.

CAA Response

This Recommendation is not addressed to the CAA.

CAA Status - Closed