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All Policies & Procedures Operations (300)

350.07(SP) - Airport Safety & Certification - Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Discharge of Aqueous Film Forming Foam

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To provide information and guidance to emergency responders and Authority personnel regarding the use and testing of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) systems on Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles.

Aviation Authority Standard Procedure

300 Operations - Airport Safety & Certification

Effective: 04/24/19

S350.07: Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Discharge of Aqueous Film Forming Foam

Revised: 09/02/20
04/20/22

PURPOSE: To provide information and guidance to emergency responders and Authority personnel regarding the use and testing of Aqueous Film

Forming Foam (AFFF) systems on Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles.

GENERAL: Title 14 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 139 requires airport operators to maintain their ARFF vehicles and fire suppression operating systems. Such systems, including the foam proportioning system and discharge functions, must be able to operate properly in an emergency situation. The FAA recommends ARFF vehicle system testing intervals occur within 6 months of an airport's airport certification safety inspection.

The Authority must maintain proper documentation of the testing and have such records available during the airport certification safety inspection. If the Authority does not conduct testing within the intervals referenced above, the FAA will require the Authority to discharge AFFF during the airport's airport certification safety inspection in order to meet the ARFF Index. Testing during the airport certification safety inspection may also include an analysis by refractometer, or conductivity meter (as referenced in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 412 (Standard for Evaluating Aircraft Rescue and Fire-Fighting Foam Equipment)), for at least one ARFF vehicle.

ARFF testing ensures that ARFF vehicles are proportioning the AFFF and water correctly and within tolerance, and it also demonstrates that the ARFF vehicle operator is knowledgeable about the equipment.

PROCEDURES: Discharge of AFFF for purposes other than responding to an emergency or for required AFFF testing is not permitted.

- A. Discharge during an emergency is permitted at any location on Airport property to mitigate and respond to an emergency. In the event of soil or ground water contamination at the location of an emergency event, the discharge will be treated as a hazardous materials event. Airport Operations and Authority Maintenance shall engage the Authority's Environmental Projects Manager for guidance on remediating soil or ground water contamination that occurred during an emergency event.

- B. Required AFFF testing may only take place within the Fire Training Pit. Under no circumstances should any discharge take place on dirt or soil. The Fire Training Pit is equipped with filters and is fully contained so that no contamination of soil or ground water will occur.

- C. ARFF will notify the Airport Operations Manager, Airfield regarding any planned or unplanned discharge of AFFF.

- D. Airport Operations and Maintenance will take all measures to contain any accidental AFFF discharge, and will coordinate any mitigation response and containment with the Authority's Environmental Projects Manager.

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APPROVED: Michael Stephens
04/20/22

DATE: