



ASSEMBLY — 39TH SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 35: Aviation safety and air navigation standardization

IATA UPDATE ON ENHANCING FUELLING SAFETY: THE IMPACT OF ICAO DOC 9977

(Presented by the International Air Transport Association (IATA))

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ICAO Doc 9977: The Manual on Civil Aviation Jet Fuel Supply was drafted by a Task Force of IATA's Technical Fuel Group, in coordination with ICAO, Airlines for America (A4A), the supplier industry's Joint Inspection Group (JIG) and Airports Council International (ACI), following a severe fuel contamination incident. This paper provides an update on the triggers, joint industry actions, achievements and ongoing work in order to further safeguard fuel quality, and proposes further action.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) note industry will provide recommendations for new SARPs in Annex 14 and other Annexes on oversight and quality control at airports; and
- b) recommend States promote the use of the IATA Global Fuel Portal across airports and national aviation authorities for the early dissemination of information on fuel quality occurrences.

<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	This working paper relates to the Safety Strategic Objective.
<i>Financial implications:</i>	The cost of developing SARPs. IATA will contribute to the work required.
<i>References:</i>	Doc 9977, <i>Manual on Civil Aviation Jet Fuel Supply</i>

¹ English, Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish versions provided by IATA.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 An airliner had to perform an emergency landing, due to serious in-flight engine fuel control issues resulting in injuries to the passengers. The aircraft had uplifted fuel from a hydrant system where work had recently been carried out to extend the facilities, but the hydrant system had not undergone a proper commissioning process after the maintenance and extension works had been completed.

1.2 Following the accident, the State of occurrence issued Accident Bulletins including the following Safety Recommendations:

1.2.1 Issue Doc 9977 “Manual on Civil Aviation Jet Fuel Supply” and promote the global use of recognized industry practices and standards, across the entire fuel supply and distribution system.

1.2.2 ICAO to consider adding new SARPs in Annex 14 or other Annexes on oversight and quality control at airports.

1.2.3 Promote and enhance the airline fuel quality oversight programs, using the IATA Fuel Quality Pool (IFQP) inspection/audit checklist and standards.

1.2.4 Specify the requirement of installing an electronic device in fuelling equipment to automatically alert the equipment operator and stop the refuelling process when exceeding design limits.

2. JOINT ICAO/INDUSTRY ACTION

2.1 ICAO Doc 9977 “Manual on Civil Aviation Jet Fuel Supply” was issued in November 2012 and widely distributed. This Manual is a signpost document to all relevant and recognized industry practices and standards, covering all matters related to aviation fuel quality control, operations and training across the entire fuel supply and distribution system, from refinery to aircraft.

2.2 The Energy Institute issued EI 1583 “Laboratory Tests and Minimum Performance Levels for Aviation Fuel Filter Monitors”, 6th edition in January 2010 and an Addendum in April 2012. This enhanced specification is mandated on a global basis.

2.3 IATA and A4A created the IATA Global Fuel Portal, which is a web-based portal for the 24/7 collection and dissemination of aviation fuel alerts and information. Launched in January 2014, this global operational database serves as a fuel disruption alert system. More than 100 aviation fuel alerts with follow-up comments and all resolved notifications have been posted since 2014. Some airports and national aviation authorities also use this system to post NOTAMs, to report planned or future major construction work on existing or new fuel systems, but broader use of this portal should be encouraged for this purpose.

3. ONGOING WORK

3.1 IATA and its industry partners actively promote the use of ICAO Doc 9977 on a global basis and to continually improve fuel quality standards and associated audit programs and checklists. The

IATA Fuel Quality Pool (IFQP) is an active member of the Joint Inspection Group (JIG) standards development committee.

3.2 In May 2016 IATA and JIG signed an agreement regarding the use of a harmonized fuel quality control procedure standard for airline and supplier auditing purposes. Furthermore, in July 2016 IATA and JIG will meet with Airlines for America (A4A) in order to determine opportunity for harmonization with the North American fuel quality control standard ATA-103.

3.3 The IATA Commercial Fuel Group and Technical Fuel Group have developed a model contract between airlines and fuel suppliers/handlers, incorporating many of the listed requirements in ICAO Doc. 9977. With these ongoing industry initiatives there is now momentum towards the harmonization of fuel quality standards and the use of global tools for better information dissemination. As this work continues, the industry will make recommendations to ICAO to consider producing SARPs to facilitate fuel quality control and inspections at airports. The industry recommendations are expected to be available in the second half of 2017.

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