



January 2005 ICAO Recommendation of Full Rescue Fire Fighting Level Compliance at Airports

Boeing has received a number of inquiries from operators concerning the January 2005 ICAO recommendation of full rescue fire fighting level compliance at airports where they operate.

Boeing does not recommend specific levels of aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) for the operation of our aircraft. Boeing is cognizant of the benefits of airports having available appropriate levels of ARFF to respond to potential emergency situations experienced by aircraft operators.

The issue is ICAO's Annex 14 – Aerodromes / Volume 1, Para 9.2.3 recommendation that, "From 1 January 2005, the level of protection provided at an aerodrome for rescue and fire fighting should be equal to the aerodrome category determined using the principles in 9.2.4 and 9.2.5." The ICAO Annex 14 – Aerodromes / Volume 1 standards and recommended practices (SARPS) cited are used for airport design and were not intended as airline operational criteria. However, it is acknowledged that some member states have applied these design criteria as operational criteria. This change in the ICAO recommended level of protection is not new and has been published in both Annex 14 and ICAO's Airport Services Manual – Part 1, "Rescue and Fire Fighting" (Doc 9137-AN/898) since 1990.

It should be noted that many airports are currently capable of meeting a higher ARFF Category based on their total number and capabilities of their existing fire vehicles. However, they only publish the level of service based on existing traffic.

Additional questions regarding issues related to Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) and Boeing aircraft can be directed to either of the following:

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