

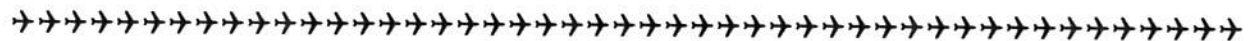


AIRSIDE NOTICE #17-14
R&I 56 - 14

DATE: September 29, 2014

**TO: ALL AIRPORT USERS
MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

SUBJECT: ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE INCIDENT AT MASSPORT



The following incident recently occurred at the Boston-Logan Airport and Massport has decided that this should be made known to airports and airlines.

FROM: Massport

Subject: RE: E-Cigarette ACM Language

Fire cause was not a battery failure. The unit (cigar size) in question was placed in checked baggage in an exterior zippered compartment of soft sided luggage with a battery in the unit ready for use.

Unit in question is designed to operate (heat up to cause vaporization of fluid) by pressing and holding a push-button on base of unit. Said push-button is normally protected with a safety shield to prevent accidental activation. Safety shield in this case was previously removed by user or was broken off during baggage handling (differing accounts).

During baggage handling into belly of aircraft, other luggage or materials apparently pushed against and remained in contact with the luggage in question causing the push-button to activate and stay activated causing adjacent combustibles in luggage to ignite. Baggage handlers smelled smoke, investigated, found the smoking bag, threw it out onto ramp and used handheld extinguishers to knock down flaming bag.

Fire Rescue responded, overhauled and cooled the bag, requested State Police EOD Officer on Duty to respond and began the investigatory phase in concert with State Fire Marshal's Office.

Final report from the State Fire Marshal Investigator was released +/- two weeks ago in a meeting with investigators, Massachusetts State Fire Marshal, Massport Fire Rescue and FAA Hazardous Materials representative in attendance.

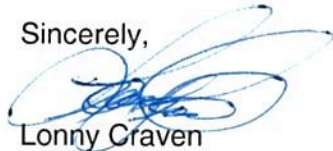
ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE INCIDENT AT MASSPORT

Additional points to ponder from this incident :

- Apparently persons who use these types of devices are known as “vapors”. Multi-billion dollar industry. Vapors frequently modify their own devices such as boring out internal holes to create more effect, disabling safety devices to make use easier, building their own higher powered heating coils to enhance effect and/or otherwise modifying their own devices.
- Family of four with 2 teenage sons were carrying the device in question. Brother also had a similar device in his luggage which was not involved.
- Chances are extremely likely that almost every passenger aircraft now has one or two or ??? similar devices on board on every flight.
- Several reports of e cigarette units exploding or catching fire world-wide, especially when charging.

Stay safe.

Sincerely,



Lonny Craven
Director of Airside Operations
Miami-Dade Aviation Department
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