Enhancing AFS training for effective emergency response

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Introduction

The Role of Airport Fire & Emergency Service

Ensuring Safety and Effective Rescue Operations

Critical Responsibility of AFS

Ensuring saving lives, protection of assets, and swift rescue operations during aircraft accidents.

ICAO's Emphasis on Training and Rapid Deployment

Highlighting the importance of training, equipment effectiveness, and rapid personnel deployment for effective rescue operations.

Need for Scrutinizing Training Practices

Evaluating the adequacy of current training practices and their alignment with real-life emergency situations.

Re-evaluation of Station-Level Training Patterns

Necessity to review and enhance station-level training patterns for optimal preparedness.

Case Study: Emirates Flight 521 Incident



ACCIDENT







EVACUATION





RESCUE STATUS

PERSON ON BOARD	STATUS	FIREFIGHTERS	STATUS
POB	300	FATAL	1
FATAL	0	MINOR INJURY	7
SERIOUS INJURY	4		
MINOR INJURY	28		
NO INJURY	268		



WHAT HAPPENED

(accident report)

- Damage to the aircraft
- Invisible fire
- Position of the responding CFTs
- Heat transfer
- Explosion



Findings from Incident Investigation

Relevant to ARFF

- Inappropriate positioning of the first responding vehicles(MFV).
- Failed to establish incident sectors
- DRA not carried out
- Communication failure
- Incident command

Accident - Final Report -AAIS Case Nº: AIFN/0008/2016 "The ARFFS training system could not detect the lack of knowledge, understanding, and experience in aircraft incident command and firefighting tactics. Exercises were limited to simple fire scenarios and no appropriate simulated techniques were developed to challenge the fire commanders, sector commanders, crew managers, and firefighters to assess fire dynamics and develop appropriate tactics"

TACTICAL TRAINING

- 360 $^{\circ}$ assessment
- Dynamic Risk Assessment
- Incident Command and Communication
- Fire Dynamics and appropriate Fire fighting tactics
- Fast developing scenarios
- Passenger Management System (PMS)
- Team work

Can be practiced during lean period of aircraft movement, maintenance breaks or the monthly hot fire drills.

Automated Firefighting Vehicles





Drone technology for aerial surveillance and IMS





Training simulators for enhanced readiness



• Integrated communication systems

Integrated communications between the onsite commanders,FWT,ATC and AEOCC helps in a efficient handling of the situation

• Smart Classrooms

Smart classrooms are equipped with modern technology like interactive whiteboards, projectors, and other multimedia devices. These devices can help instructors deliver lectures, conduct group discussions, and engage students in interactive activities

FUTURE INNOVATIONS & FUTURE OF ARFF:

predictive analytics, swarm robotics and enhanced remote monitoring.

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References:

- The Air Accident Investigation Sector, General Civil Aviation Authority, The United Arab Emirates
- Pictures courtesy: ARFF, Kannur international Airport Ltd, Rosenbauer and the internet

