

T/20

## **PORTABLE OXYGEN EQUIPMENT PRESSURE RELIEF**

### **1. Applicability**

This Airworthiness Notice is applicable to all portable oxygen equipment carried in Myanmar registered aeroplanes exceeding 5700 kg MTWA.

### **2. Introduction**

2.1 In a recent cabin fire-related accident, there were at least two instances of portable oxygen equipment exploding and forming hazardous projectiles within the cabin as a result of direct involvement in the fire. The DCA is concerned about any possible risk to the aeroplane occupants or rescue personnel from such hazards.

2.2 The explosive failure of an oxygen cylinder in a fire may be caused by high internal pressure generated by the heating of the oxygen, combined with a weakening of the cylinder material. The incorporation of an over temperature/ overpressure relief device should reduce the probability of such a dangerous explosion.

2.3 Although protection against rupture is required on the fixed and portable oxygen equipment in all newly designed aeroplanes, it was not a requirement in the 1950's and 1960's when many of the currently used portable oxygen equipment were first approved.

2.4 The purpose of this Notice is to publish a requirement for the provision of an over temperature/overpressure relief device on portable oxygen equipment.

### **3. Compliance**

All portable oxygen equipment carried in aeroplanes defined in paragraph 1 above, shall comply with the requirement of this Notice.

### **4. Requirement**

Portable oxygen equipment shall be equipped with an over temperature/overpressure relief device in accordance with the requirements of FAR 25.1453 (a) or JAR 25.1453(b)(1) and associated ACJ 25.1453.

### **5. Additional Information**

Compliance with this requirement would normally be achieved by the provision of a dedicated over temperature/overpressure relief device. However, such a device may not be necessary if it can be demonstrated by appropriate fire test evidence that the failure of a part of the equipment (e.g. contents gauge) performs a similar function and satisfies the requirement of this Notice.