



AIRWORTHINESS NOTICE

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Weather Radar Hazards

The increasing use of airborne radar for weather avoidance has led to some concern about possible hazards on the ground when persons stand or pass directly in front of parked aircraft which may have the radar turned on for test purposes. Through extensive evaluations, the FAA has determined that normal radar transmissions, at the energy level found in airborne radar equipment, do not present a risk of injury. The agency does not preclude possibility of human body damage and/or ignition of combustible materials if the radar equipment is miss-handled by unqualified persons or in a non-approved manner.

As a general rate, the FAA advises that radar equipment should be handled or worked on only by personnel who are qualified to do so by virtue of appropriate training and experience. Although there is no medical evidence of body damage from this type or radar, the FAA recommends that persons should not stand close to the front of an aircraft radome or antenna compartment. Most radomes are at approximately eye level, and eye tissue is more vulnerable to microwave emissions than other human issue.

Maintenance personnel are advised to avoid looking into the radar waveguide or the open end of a coaxial connector, as severe eye damage could result, Since radar radiation is capable of heating materials it encounters, it should not be used in an area where aircraft are being fueled or de-fueled. Furthermore, it is considered desirable, when operating installed radar in a closed hangar, that the energy be directed toward an absorption shield.

CANCELLATION:- This issue cancels all previous issues of Notice No. 18 which should be destroyed.


For/ Director General
Civil Aviation Authority