

Sec. 25.857 (as published 3/19/98 – refer to FAA’s Regulatory and Guidance Library for current regulations)

Cargo compartment classification.

(a) *Class A.* A Class A cargo or baggage compartment is one in which--

(1) The presence of a fire would be easily discovered by a crewmember while at his station; and

(2) Each part of the compartment is easily accessible in flight.

(b) *Class B.* A Class B cargo or baggage compartment is one in which--

(1) There is sufficient access in flight to enable a crewmember to effectively reach any part of the compartment with the contents of a hand fire extinguisher;

(2) When the access provisions are being used, no hazardous quantity of smoke, flames, or extinguishing agent, will enter any compartment occupied by the crew or passengers;

(3) There is a separate approved smoke detector or fire detector system to give warning at the pilot or flight engineer station; and

(4) [Reserved.]

(c) *Class C.* A Class C cargo or baggage compartment is one not meeting the requirements for either a Class A or B compartment but in which--

(1) There is a separate approved smoke detector or fire detector system to give warning at the pilot or flight engineer station.

[(2) There is an approved built-in fire extinguishing or suppression system controllable from the cockpit.]

(3) There are means to exclude hazardous quantities of smoke, flames, or extinguishing agent, from any compartment occupied by the crew or passengers;

(4) There are means to control ventilation and drafts within the compartment so that the extinguishing agent used can control any fire that may start within the compartment; and

(5) [Reserved.]

[(d) [Reserved.]]

(e) *Class E.* A Class E cargo compartment is one on airplanes used only for the carriage of cargo and in which--

(1) [Reserved]

(2) There is a separate approved smoke or fire detector system to give warning at the pilot or flight engineer station;

(3) There are means to shut off the ventilating airflow to, or within, the compartment, and the controls for these means are accessible to the flight crew in the crew compartment;

(4) There are means to exclude hazardous quantities of smoke, flames, or noxious gases, from the flight crew compartment; and

(5) The required crew emergency exits are accessible under any cargo loading condition.

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