

# ORDER

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION  
GREAT LAKES REGION

GL 3900.16

28 Jul 72

SUBJ: SAFETY ALERT - FIRE HAZARD 1.5 KVA, 240/32 VOLT TRANSFORMER

1. PURPOSE. This order is to alert the field of a possible fire hazard when using 1.5 KVA, 240/32 volt transformer.
2. DISTRIBUTION. This order is distributed to section level in the Airway Facilities Division and all Airway Facilities Sector Offices.
3. ACTION. At facilities where these transformers are in use, they should be thoroughly inspected at regular intervals for wiring defects and overheating. Corrective action: Redo all splices using mechanical connectors. When in doubt, remake the connections.
4. BACKGROUND. A VORTAC in the Great Lakes Region was badly damaged recently due to a fire thought to be caused by a bare conductor due to insulation failure, a loose connection, or a poorly taped mechanical connector coming in contact with the cover of the wiring cabinet causing an arcing condition. Molten metal from the cover plate fell on the indoor-outdoor carpeting which ignited and the ensuing events destroyed the TACAN, part of the VOR, some test equipment, acoustical tile, TACAN baffles, etc. The exterior and interior of the building suffered considerable smoke damage.

*Alan H. Glass*  
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Distribution: RAF-4; FAF-0 (Wide)

Initiated By: GL-445