

Presentation at the EAGOSH-Meeting in Seeheim on 19. Nov. 2003 by Dr. Stefanie Wagner, Lufthansa, Medical Doctor Occupational Health phone +49 69 696 7627

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- 1. Solar exposure causes raising temperature in closed cabins of aircraft tractors.
 - To prevent unhealthy noise and interference of radio communication, tractor windows should not be opened for relief.
- 2. With increasing temperature in cabins of a/c tractors a limitation of physical and mental ability can be observed.



- 3. These limitations can result in higher risks of accidents depending on duration and intensity of strain.
- 4. Those risks can be reduced by keeping the cabin temperature on a level related to the so-called "thermal comfort".

^{*)} Thermal comfort under working conditions is a climate with a defined range of air temperature, relative humidity and air speed, regarding radiant temperature, clothing and activity, that does not impair working ability and safety.



- 5. This requires an increased airflow rate when cabin temperature is raising.
- 6. Whenever the cabin temperature reaches a level equal to the skin surface temperature, an increased airflow rate itself cannot achieve "thermal comfort". Under the condition of high cabin temperature and solar exposure "thermal comfort" can only be obtained by using air-conditioning.



7. EAGOSH recommends to equip all new a/c tractors with air-conditioning.

Existing vehicles should be refitted with air-conditioning.

If air-conditioning will not be possible, organisational measures should be taken in order to reduce risks (e.g. pause management).



8. If similar strain will appear in other ramp-vehicles, analogue measures should be taken



