

RESETTING OF CIRCUIT BREAKERS

SUGGESTED PROCEDURES

Lockheed

Below is a copy of an Operating Information Letter sent to all operators.

L-1011 Operating Information Letter (8 January 1987)

SUBJECT: CIRCUIT BREAKER TRIPS AND RESETTING: CAUTIONARY PROCEDURES

PURPOSE:

This Operating Information Letter discusses Lockheed recommended procedures for resetting circuit breakers which may automatically trip during flight or ground operations. Recent in-service reports indicate that repeated resetting of circuit breakers has resulted in unnecessary damage to aircraft wiring and other equipment.

DISCUSSION:

The reliability of state-of-art circuit breakers is such that only under rare circumstances should nuisance trips occur. Should any circuit breaker trip, the probability is high that electrical shorts or grounds exist in the aircraft wiring and /or equipment and that the desired protection has been accomplished. Without these cautionary procedures being followed, continued resetting of circuit breakers may result in severe consequences.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Lockheed recommends that the following procedures be adhered to after any circuit breaker automatically trips. These procedures are applicable to all circuit breakers available to the flight crew, as well as the cabin attendants.

- Record all circuit breaker trips in the aircraft log book for maintenance action as required.
- Carefully consider the circuit breaker function(s). Do not reset the circuit breaker unless the availability of the function is necessary for continued safe flight and landing, or for passenger comfort. (If the affected function or component has an on/off switch, turn off the switch before resetting the circuit breaker.)
- If it is considered necessary to attempt a reset of the circuit breaker, a three minute cooling period should be observed before attempting the reset. Do not reset the circuit breaker again if a trip occurs. To prevent further resetting, tag or collar as inoperative.

Note: These procedures are not intended to conflict the specific procedures in either the Airplane Flight Manual or other advisory material, wherein resetting certain circuit breakers may otherwise be prohibited.

Lockheed recommends that all flight crews and cabin attendants be made aware of these cautionary procedures. Lockheed further recommends that maintenance personnel also be made aware.