ODOR ONBOARD: IS THIS A FUME EVENT?

1. TRY TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF ODOR

   - In Cabin Source?
     - e.g., electrical fault, galley equipment, carry-ons, people
     - Address directly. Ask for assistance if needed.
     - If aircraft equipment is involved, notify the flight deck and complete a cabin discrepancy form.
   - Air Supply Vents?
     - e.g., engine oil, hydraulic fluid fumes, engine exhaust fumes, deicing fluid
     - On The Ground?
       - Proceed to step 2.
     - Inflight?
       - Proceed to step 3.

2. IF ON THE GROUND

   - Quicklly determine if there is an obvious explanation for fumes related to ground operations (e.g., deicing, exhaust from ground equipment, etc.)
   - Use best judgment to decide if odor will likely subside on its own or need to inform pilots
   - If Yes
     - Proceed to step 3
   - If No
     - Quickly determine if there is an obvious explanation for fumes related to ground operations (e.g., deicing, exhaust from ground equipment, etc.)
     - NOTIFY FLIGHT DECK
     - Advise that fumes appear to be coming from air supply vents.
     - Fumes in cabin smell like _____________.
     - Fumes are mild/moderate/intense.
     - There is or is not smoke/haze.
     - Fumes are most noticeable in forward/mid/aft cabin.
     - Fumes started during ___ phase of flight.
     - F/As or passengers have ___ symptoms (if any).
     - Report if F/As or passengers are on oxygen or need other medical care.
     - Report to the flight deck. Use the AFA fumes reporting form if you have it, and take a photo of the completed form before you give it to the pilots. Otherwise, either refer to this list or remember the “four Ss” -- Source (vents or not), Smell (describe), Site (location in cabin), and Symptoms (if any). Seek medical assistance per the Flight Attendants Manual if necessary.
     - IF aircraft equipment is involved,
       - notify the flight deck and complete a cabin discrepancy form.
   - IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS, GET MEDICAL ATTENTION
     - Sick at Gate: Deplane and seek medical assistance
     - Sick inflight:
       - Take Oxygen
       - Ask pilots to call for medical assistance (e.g., Medlink)
       - Seek medical assistance after flight
       - Take pictures or video to document conditions and/or symptoms
       - Bring the documents posted on the AFA fumes page with you (www.afa-cwa.org/fumes-onboard)
       - Safety data sheet for the oil or hydraulic fluid at your airline
       - Health care providers’ guide
       - AFA Bulletin: “What your doctor needs to know”
   - REPORT THE FUME EVENT
     - Take a photo of any documents you submit, for your records.

Questions or concerns? Call your AFA Safety Rep. AFA is here to help. www.afacwa.org/fumes-onboard