UNIT I - AIRCRAFT GROUND HANDLING AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

UNIT I /Topic/LP1: Introduction

Introduction

There are several types of equipment used in aircraft ground handling and support, including:

Aircraft Tractors: These are vehicles used to tow aircraft between the runway and the gate, as well as to push back aircraft from the gate for departure.

Baggage Carts: These are vehicles used to transport passenger baggage to and from the aircraft.

Ground Power Units (GPU): These are mobile power generators used to provide electrical power to aircraft when their engines are shut down.

Air Starter Units (ASU): These are mobile compressed air units used to start aircraft engines.

Fuel Trucks: These are vehicles used to refuel aircraft with jet fuel.

De-icing Trucks: These are vehicles used to spray de-icing fluid on aircraft to remove ice and snow.

Importance of Equipment

The use of ground handling and support equipment is essential for efficient and safe aircraft operations. It allows for quick turnaround times, which means more flights can be scheduled in a day, leading to increased revenue for airlines. Additionally, the use of equipment reduces the physical strain on ground crew, making the work environment safer and more comfortable.

Proper Handling of Equipment

Proper handling and maintenance of ground handling and support equipment is crucial to ensure their safe and effective operation. Operators should be properly trained on the equipment they are handling, and regular maintenance and inspections should be conducted to identify any potential issues.

Aircraft ground handling and support equipment is an essential component of airport operations. It allows for safe and efficient aircraft turnaround times, reduces the physical strain on ground crew, and ultimately contributes to a better passenger experience. Proper handling and maintenance of this equipment is crucial to ensure its safe and effective operation.