



**WORKING PAPER**

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)**

**TWENTY-SECOND MEETING**

**Montréal, 5 to 16 October 2009**

**Agenda Item 2: Development of recommendations for amendments to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc 9284) for incorporation in the 2011-2012 Edition**

**PACKING INSTRUCTION 959**

(Presented by K. Vermeersch)

**SUMMARY**

This working paper contains amendments and comments on DGP/22-WP/7 which introduces a revised Packing Instruction 959 for GMOs and GMMOs. In order to better align with the UN Model Regulations and with the structure and philosophy of the Technical Instructions, some amendments and additions are proposed to the revised Packing Instruction 959.

**Action required by the DGP:** The DGP is invited to adopt the proposed amendments to PI 959.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The UN adopted a proposal to make the requirements for GMOs and GMMOs less stringent as it was felt that the packing and documentation requirements were out of proportion with the risk these substances may pose. For that reason a similar approach was taken as for UN 3373, **Biological substances category B**. Packages marked and labelled in accordance with the revised packing instruction for GMOs and GMMOs will not be subject to any other requirements.

1.2 Packing Instruction 959 still imposes a quantity limitation which becomes now redundant and which makes the transport of certain items such as seeds impracticable. On the other hand, some references to certain parts of the Technical Instructions which remain applicable are missing.

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## APPENDIX

### PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PACKING INSTRUCTION 959

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The following is based on Packing Instruction 959 as amended in DGP/22-WP/7

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#### **Packing Instruction 959**

Passenger and cargo aircraft for UN 3245 only

##### **General requirements**

Part 4, Chapter 1 and 2 requirements must be met, including:

##### **1) Compatibility requirements**

- Substances must be compatible with their packagings as required by 4;1.1.3.

##### **2) Closure requirements**

- Closures must meet the requirements of 4;1.1.4.

The following packagings are authorized:

- 1) Packagings meeting the provisions of 4;1.1.1, 4;1.1.3.1, 4;1.1.5 and 4;2 and so designed that they meet the construction requirements of 6;3. Outer packagings constructed of suitable material of adequate strength and designed in relation to the packaging capacity and its intended use must be used. Where this packing instruction is used for the transport of inner packagings of combination packagings the packaging must be designed and constructed to prevent inadvertent discharge during normal conditions of transport.
- 2) Packagings, which need not conform to the packaging test requirements of Part 6, but conforming to the following:
  - a) an inner packaging comprising:
    - 1) primary receptacle(s) and a secondary packaging, the primary receptacle(s) or the secondary packaging must be leakproof for liquids or siftproof for solids;
    - 2) for liquids, absorbent material placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging. The absorbent material must be in a quantity sufficient to absorb the entire contents of the primary receptacle(s) so that any release of the liquid substance will not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material or of the outer packaging;
    - 3) if multiple fragile primary receptacles are placed in a single secondary packaging they must be individually wrapped or separated to prevent contact between them;
  - b) An outer packaging must be strong enough for its capacity, mass and intended use, and with a smallest external dimension of at least 100 mm.

For transport, the mark illustrated below must be displayed on the external surface of the outer packaging on a background of a contrasting colour and must be clearly visible and legible. The mark must be in the form of a square set at an angle of 45° (diamond-shaped) with each side having a length of at least 50 mm; the width of the line must be at least 2 mm and the letters and numbers must be at least 6 mm high.



When packages are placed in an overpack, the package markings required by this packing instruction must either clearly be visible or the markings must be reproduced on the outside of the overpack and the overpack must be marked with the word "Overpack."

GMOs or GMMOs assigned to UN 3245 which are packed and marked in accordance with this packing instruction are not subject to any other requirement in these Instructions except for the following:

- 1) the name and address of the shipper and of the consignee must be provided on each package;
- 2) classification must be in accordance with 2;9.2.1 c);
- 3) the incident reporting requirements in 7;4.4 must be met;
- 4) the inspection for damage or leakage requirements in 7;3.1.3 and 7;3.1.4;
- 5) passengers and crew members are prohibited from transporting UN 3345 either as, or in, carry-on baggage or checked baggage or on their person.

<i>UN number and proper shipping name</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Inner packaging (see 6;3.2)</i>	<i>Quantity—passenger</i>	<i>Quantity—cargo</i>	<b>SINGLE PACKAGINGS</b>
<b>UN 3245 Genetically modified organisms</b>	Liquid	100 mL	No limit	No limit	No
	Solid	100 g	No limit	No limit	

**ADDITIONAL PACKING REQUIREMENTS**

- ~~— The packaging must comply with all the requirements of Packing instruction 602.~~
- When dry ice or liquid nitrogen is used, all applicable requirements of these Instructions must be met. When used, ice or dry ice must be placed outside the secondary packagings or in the outer packaging or an overpack. Interior supports must be provided to secure the secondary packagings in the original position after the ice or dry ice has dissipated. If ice is used, the outside packaging or overpack must be leakproof. If dry ice is used, the requirements in Packing Instruction 954 must be met.
- The primary receptacle and the secondary packaging must maintain their integrity at the temperature of the refrigerant used as well as the temperatures and the pressures which could result if refrigeration were lost.