

FOLLOW-UP ON HARMONISED APPROACH TO LITHIUM BATTERY-POWERED POWER-BANK CARRIAGE AND USE IN AIRCRAFT CABINS

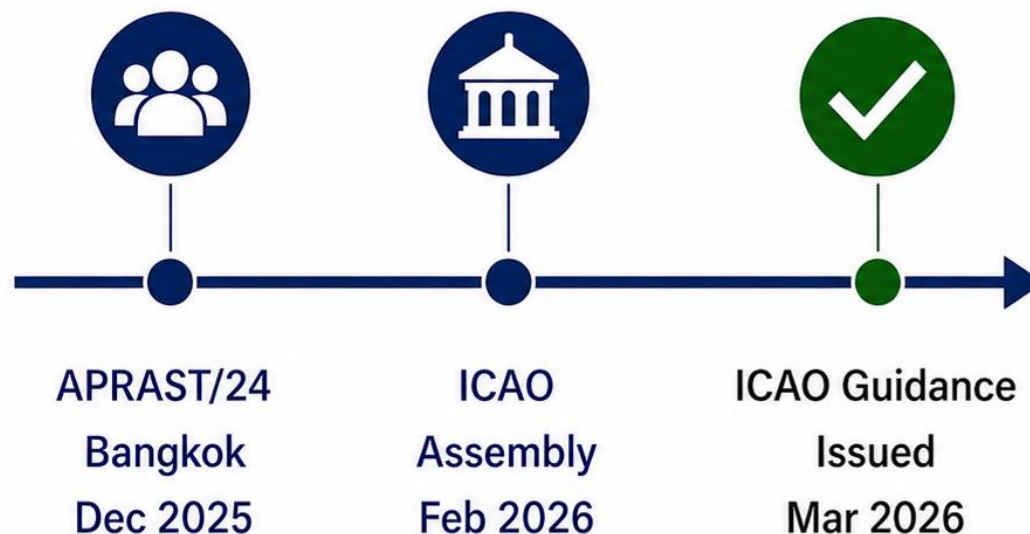
Presented by:
Association of Asia Pacific Airlines

APRAST/25 — Bangkok, 22-26 June 2026

Background

SINCE APRAST/24

-  Increasing lithium battery incidents
-  Power-bank related cabin fires
-  Regulatory variance
-  Passenger confusion
-  Operational challenges



Current Landscape

A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD

ICAO GUIDANCE – 27 MARCH 2026



**MAXIMUM OF
2 POWER BANKS
PER PASSENGER**



**RECHARGING POWER
BANKS ON BOARD
PROHIBITED**



COMMON GLOBAL BASELINE ESTABLISHED

Current Landscape

SO THE ISSUE IS SOLVED?

Not quite.

Although the baseline
is now common,

**Airlines find it
insufficient.**



Current Landscape

WHAT PASSENGERS EXPERIENCE

One Journey. Many Different Rules.



SAME SAFETY OBJECTIVE

- ✓ Max 2 power banks per passenger
- ✓ No recharging of power banks during flight
- ✓ No using power banks to charge devices
- ✓ Power banks carried in cabin only

SEOUL	TOKYO	KUALA LUMPUR	BANGKOK	SYDNEY	MANILA	NEW DELHI

ADDITIONAL NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

KOREA

- Terminals must be tapped / insulated to prevent short circuit.

JAPAN

- Power banks must be visible to cabin crew during flight.

CHINA

- 3C certification is mandatory on domestic flights.

INDIA

- Power banks must be switched off.
- Carried as personal possession.

THAILAND

- Capacity must be identifiable (Wh/mAh).
- Unmarked power banks are prohibited.

MALAYSIA

- Power banks must be kept on person or within immediate reach.

REGULATORY VARIANCE

	1. ACCESSIBILITY / VISIBILITY REQUIREMENTS							
	 1. ACCESSIBILITY / VISIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	 Within reach	 Visible & accessible	 On person or within immediate reach	 Accessibility encouraged (not prescriptive)	 Accessible (seat pocket, under seat or on person)	 Accessible	 Not specified
	2. STORAGE REQUIREMENTS		 No overhead bins	 Under seat / seat pocket (no overhead bins)	 Under seat / seat pocket (no overhead bins)	 Seat pocket, under seat or on person (no overhead bins)	 Partial (varies by airline)	 No overhead bins
	 2. STORAGE REQUIREMENTS	 Guidance (avoid overhead bins)						
	3. PERSONAL POSSESSION REQUIREMENTS		 Not required (but keep accessible)	 On person or within immediate reach	 On person or within immediate reach	 Not required (but recommended)	 On person / within reach (recommended)	 Must be on person (personal possession)
	 3. PERSONAL POSSESSION REQUIREMENTS	 Guidance						

LEGEND: ✓ Required / Prohibited ⚠ Partially required / Varies by airline = Guidance / Not specified 👤 On person / Within reach 👁 Visible / Accessible 🖐 Within reach ⓘ Encouraged

Note: Regulations are subject to change. Always check the latest authority / airline guidance before travel.

Sources: ICAO Policy Update (Mar 2026); State regulator publications and official advisories (latest as of May 2026).

Continuing Operational Variation

AREAS OF CONTINUING VARIATION



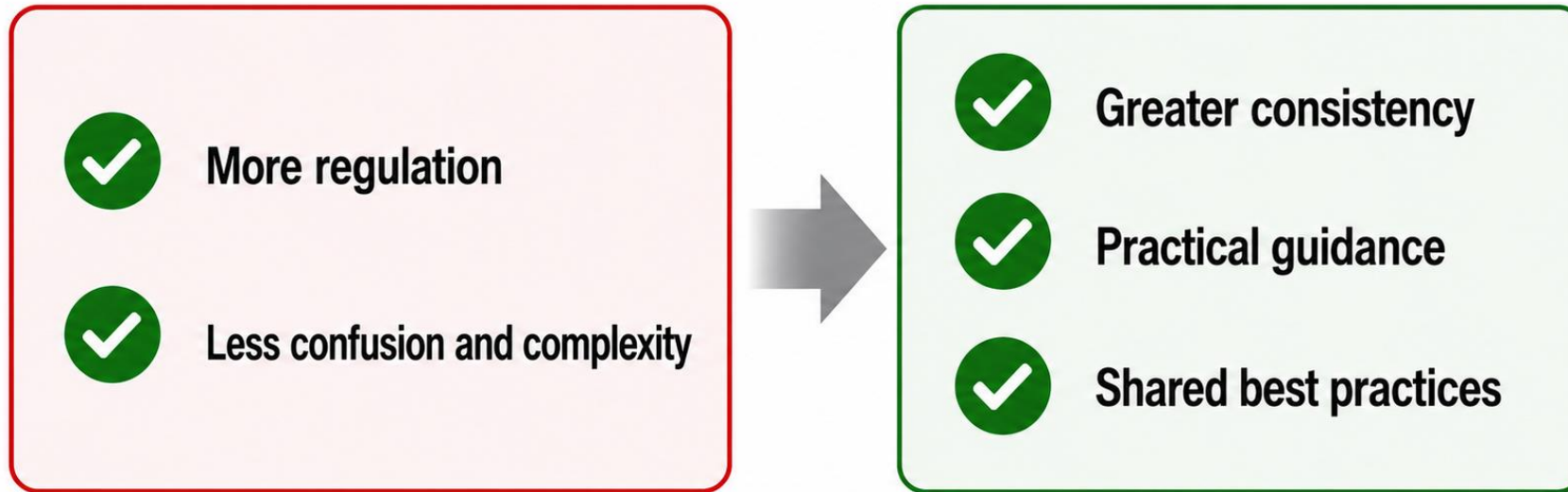
Passenger Confusion and Operational Challenges

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?



Inconsistency increases risk and can delay detection and response to thermal runaway events.

Need for Continued Regional Guidance



The objective is **consistent implementation.**

Importance of Communication

Aligned communication across States and Airlines will help passengers understand and comply with requirements, wherever they travel.

EXAMPLES OF PASSENGER COMMUNICATION

**THAILAND**



การนำ
Power Bank ขึ้นเครื่องบิน



ห้ามใส่ในกระเป๋าโหลดใต้ท้องเครื่อง
(Checked Baggage)



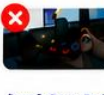
ห้ามเก็บในช่องเก็บสัมภาระเหนือศีรษะ
(Checked Compartment)



ต้องมีความจุไม่เกิน 100 Wh หรือ 20,000 mAh ต่อคน
(ไม่จำกัดจำนวน)
(Per Person)



พกพาได้ไม่เกิน 2 ชิ้น ต่อคน



ห้ามชาร์จ Power Bank (Under the Seat)



ห้ามใช้ Power Bank ชาร์จโทรศัพท์มือถือ
(Overhead Bin)



ต้องนำติดตัว เข้าไม่พ้นกระเป๋าทำมือ
(Accessible Pouch)



เก็บที่กระเป๋านำขึ้นเครื่อง
ไว้ตลอดการเดินทาง หรือเก็บ
ในไฟลัมพลาสติก



ห้ามใช้หากเสียหาย บวม ร้อน หรือมีควัน
(Damaged / Swollen / Hot / Smoking)



ใช้และชาร์จ อย่างปลอดภัย
(Use & Charge Safely)



พกพาเท่านั้น ห้ามชาร์จเพื่อจำหน่าย
(For Personal Use Only)

สอบถามข้อมูลเพิ่มเติมได้ที่ ops_dfo@caat.or.th

02-568-8803 info@caat.or.th www.caat.or.th

**PHILIPPINES**

**SAFETY TIPS** FOR PASSENGERS CARRYING
POWER BANKS ON BOARD FLIGHTS

Purchase Quality Power Banks

- Buy power banks from reputable brands to ensure they meet safety standards.

Inspect Before Travels

- Check your power bank for any signs of damage or wear. Avoid bringing old or damaged power banks on board, as internal components can degrade over time, increasing the risk of short circuits.

Proper Storage

- Carry power banks in your carry-on baggage; they are prohibited in checked luggage.
- Ensure power banks are individually protected to prevent short circuits, such as placing them in their original packaging or using protective cover.

Usage During Flight

- Avoid using power banks during the flight to minimize risks.
- Do not charge devices with power banks while on board.

Handling Malfunctions

- If your power bank exhibits abnormal heat, swelling, or smoke, inform the cabin crew immediately.

**SOUTH KOREA**

Useful tips for your safety and ours!

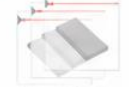
Carry-on Procedures
for Powerbanks and E-Cigarettes

1 Powerbank Carry-on Standards Carry On ☒ Checked Baggage ☐

Capacity	Quantity	Airline Approval	Visible Marking (Wh)	Carry-On Conditions Short Circuit Prevention Measures	Storage
~ 100 Wh	1~5	X	X	O	Carry on your person, or in seat pocket.
Between 100 Wh and 160 Wh	1~2	O	O	O	
~ 160 Wh	1~1	O	O	O	
~ 160 Wh	Any				PROHIBITED
~ 160 Wh	Any				PROHIBITED

[Note] Most Powerbanks are less than 100 Wh (Average 20,000 mAh & 3.7V product equals 74 Wh capacity)
E-Cigarettes can be carried on your person, but not as checked baggage.

2 Powerbank Short Circuit Prevention Methods Use any one of three



① Store in ziplock bag or protective pouch (each one separately)



② Attach a piece of tape on the terminals



③ Attach a protective cap on the terminal

3 Powerbank Carry-on Procedures If you have less than 5 Powerbanks of less than 100 Wh capacity, Airline approval and Sticker attachment is not necessary



Receive approval and sticker from check-in counter after carrying out short circuit prevention methods



If you do not have approval stickers you will not be allowed to carry powerbanks on board



① Also a note approved carry powerbanks on board



Carry on your person, or in the front seat pocket (Do not store in overhead bins)

4 Passenger Rules & Emergency Response

① Storage	Carry on your person, or in the seat pocket (Not allowed in overhead bins)
② Use of Powerbanks	Use Short Circuit Prevention Measures when not actively using Powerbanks
③ Precautions	Be wary so that your Powerbanks do not receive external shock or pressure (Charging the Powerbank is prohibited)
④ Emergency Response	If your Powerbank overheats or swells, notify the crew immediately.

**국토교통부** **TS 한국교통안전공단**

**AAPA**
ASSOCIATION OF ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES

Potential Areas for OPS Working Group Consideration

POTENTIAL AREAS FOR REGIONAL GUIDANCE



**RECOMMENDED
STOWAGE
PRACTICES**



**ACCESSIBILITY
CONSIDERATIONS**



**MANAGEMENT OF
DAMAGED OR
SWOLLEN DEVICES**



**CREW RESPONSE
PROCEDURES**



**PASSENGER
COMMUNICATION
MATERIALS**



**SHARING OF
GOOD PRACTICES
AND EXPERIENCE**



Practical guidance and sharing of experience will support safer operations across the Asia Pacific region.

Final Thoughts

WHAT CONSISTENCY LOOKS LIKE



**ONE
PASSENGER**



**ONE
MESSAGE**



**ONE
SAFETY
OUTCOME**

Action Items & Closing

- Invited to note ICAO's March 2026 guidance on passenger power-bank carriage and charging restrictions
- Recognise continuing operational variations across the region
- Support continued APRAST OPS WG work on practical regional guidance and best practices
- Encourage sharing of operational experience, incident data and passenger communication materials



www.aapairlines.org

**Association of Asia Pacific Airlines
36th Floor, Menara Maxis
Kuala Lumpur City Centre
50088 Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA**

Tel: +60 3 2615 0188

Fax: +60 3 2615 0088

Email: technical@aapa.org.my

Follow us on  [@aapairlines](https://twitter.com/aapairlines)