



**WORKING PAPER**

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)**

**TWENTY-FIRST MEETING**

**Montréal, 5 to 16 November 2007**

**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 2009-2010 Edition**

**Agenda Item 5: Resolution, where possible, of the non-recurrent work items identified by the Air Navigation Commission or the panel**

**5.4: Review of provisions for dangerous goods relating to lithium batteries**

**CARRIAGE BY PASSENGERS OF LITHIUM BATTERIES IN CARRY-ON BAGGAGE**

(Presented by G. A. Leach)

**SUMMARY**

This working paper suggests the Dangerous Goods Panel consider whether lithium batteries/battery powered equipment should be restricted to carriage in carry-on baggage only.

Action by the DGP is in paragraph 2.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 For many years, safety matches and cigarette lighters have only been permitted for carriage by passengers in the cabin of an aircraft (on the person) because experience has shown that such items are capable of igniting during a journey; carriage in the cabin provides for action to be taken by cabin crew which may not be possible if such items are carried in checked baggage.

1.2 The ability of some types of lithium batteries/battery powered equipment to also ignite during a journey is well documented, with fires having occurred in lap top computers, personal air purifiers and battery packs. However, such items are currently permitted for carriage in both carry-on and checked baggage, despite such items arguably having greater potential to cause a serious fire than matches or lighters.

1.3 It is suggested that the panel discuss this issue as currently, in the event of a serious incident, it would appear difficult to justify why lithium batteries/battery powered equipment are not restricted to carriage as carry-on baggage, particularly when it would appear that such a restriction would

cause limited hardship to a passenger, since lap top computers, mobile phones, cameras etc. are not routinely carried in checked baggage. Restricting carriage of such items to carry-on baggage would also have the effect of placing an additional safeguard on fake/counterfeit batteries (something which regulations cannot ordinarily do) because these too would then be carried in the cabin.

## 2. **ACTION BY THE DGP**

2.1 The DGP is invited to discuss whether lithium batteries/battery powered equipment should be restricted to carriage as carry-on baggage only. If it is decided such action is necessary, a proposal by way of a flimsy at DGP/21 could be produced.

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