



DGP/22-IP/3  
28/9/09

## **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**

### **MAGNETIZED MATERIAL**

(Presented by DIGITALEUROPE)

#### **SUMMARY**

This information paper offers support to the issues raised in DGP/22-WP/42.



Brussels, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## DIGITALEUROPE POSITION ON THE DGAC PROPOSAL TO ICAO ON MAGNETIZED MATERIAL

### 1- BACKGROUND

The Dangerous Goods Advisory Council (DGAC) submitted a paper (**DGP-WG/09-WP/31**) on Magnetized Materials to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) Meeting held in Auckland New Zealand, on the 4 to 8 May 2009.

The report published for this meeting (**DGP-WG/09-WP/68**) states that based on comprehensive analysis DGAC suggested that the current levels for magnetized material were unwarranted and that magnetized material should only be regulated when they caused a deflection of 2 degrees or more at 4.6 m.

It was agreed in this meeting that consultation with airworthiness experts was essential before any amendments could be considered and revised proposal to be made at DGP/22.

DGAC submitted the revised paper (**DGP/22-WP/42**) on magnetized materials to the ICAO DGP Twenty-Second Meeting to be held in Montreal, on the 5 to 16 October 2009.

After further review DGAC is again proposing that magnetized material should only be regulated when they caused a deflection of 2 degrees or more at 4.6 m.

Acceptance of this proposal would mean that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) equipment that currently ships by air as fully regulated UN 2807 magnetized material would no longer be regulated. This change would harmonize the ICAO regulations with the U.S. 49 CFR regulations, which have been in force without incident since 1985.

### 2- INDUSTRY POSITION

Member companies of DIGITALEUROPE are affected by the ICAO regulations for magnetized materials. ICT products affected by the regulations include products that do not contain magnets but contain or are made of steel parts, including computer racks, printers, storage and tape systems, self checkout equipment, bank machines, kiosks, etc.. The steel in these products is unintentionally magnetized when it is bent, welded or otherwise handled.

DIGITALEUROPE reviewed the proposal with DGAC before the Auckland meeting and supported their position by contacting various ICAO DGP members.

DIGITALEUROPE believes the costs and complexity of shipping ICT products as fully regulated magnetized materials are not justified based on the information that DGAC has provided and the fact that such ICT products have been safely shipped in U.S. not regulated since 1985 without incident.



### **3- RECCOMENDATION**

DIGITALEUROPE recommends that the ICAO DGP accept the DGAC proposal (refer to Appendix B in DGAC paper **DGP/22-WP/42**) for magnetized material as the benefits would be significant for ICT companies who do business in Europe and globally without affecting the safe movement of such products.



#### **ABOUT DIGITALEUROPE**

DIGITALEUROPE, the organisation formerly known as EICTA, is the voice of the European digital technology industry, which includes large and small companies in the Information and Communications Technology and Consumer Electronics Industry sectors. It is composed of 61 major multinational companies and 40 national associations from 28 European countries. In all, DIGITALEUROPE represents more than 10,000 companies all over Europe with more than 2 million employees and over EUR 1,000 billion in revenues.

#### **THE MEMBERSHIP OF DIGITALEUROPE**

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