



WORKING PAPER

DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)

TWENTY-SECOND MEETING

Montréal, 5 to 16 October 2009

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

5.3: Review of provisions for dangerous goods relating to batteries:

- a) **lithium batteries**
- b) **battery-powered devices**
- c) **battery-powered mobility aids**

DIMENSIONS FOR LITHIUM BATTERY HANDLING LABEL

(Presented by PRBA)

SUMMARY

This paper seeks changes to the dimensions of the lithium battery handling label.

Action by the DGP: The DGP is invited to adopt the new minimum dimensions for the lithium battery handling label through the proposed amendment to 5.3.5.2.2 as presented in the appendix.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In May 2009, the Dangerous Goods Panel Working Group of the Whole considered PRBA's proposal (DGP/22-WP/3, paragraph 3.5.1.12 refers) for new dimensions for the lithium battery handling label to accommodate small packages used for transporting consumer-type lithium ion and lithium metal cells and batteries. PRBA had proposed a 60 × 55 mm label when the packages are of dimensions such that they can only bear smaller labels or when a product's retail package serves as the outer package.

1.2 The working group agreed that consideration should be given to reducing the dimensions of the label for packages that may not be large enough to accommodate the current 120 × 110 mm label but that PRBA's proposed dimensions of 60 × 55 were too small.

1.3 A small working group was formed during an afternoon break and a general agreement was reached on the dimensions for two lithium battery handling labels to replace the existing

120 x 110 mm label. The working group agreed that dimensions of 74 × 105 mm were acceptable since these are consistent with the radioactive material, excepted package; and “Keep away from heat” labels. The working group also agreed that a label with the dimensions 55 × 130 mm would be acceptable to accommodate current industry packagings for small, consumer-type lithium cells. (Examples of the labels — not to scale — are shown below.)



* Place for “Lithium metal battery” or “Lithium ion battery”



* Place for “Lithium metal battery” or “Lithium ion battery”

1.4 Therefore, PRBA is proposing optional alternative minimum dimensions for the lithium battery handling label of 74 × 105 mm and 55 × 130 mm to accommodate current industry packagings. PRBA recommends retaining the existing label size to avoid having to transition away from the existing label, particularly for those packages where label size is not an issue and where the larger label size provides a measure of increased visibility.

APPENDIX
AMENDMENTS TO THE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part 5
SHIPPER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

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Chapter 3
LABELLING

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3.5 LABEL SPECIFICATIONS

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3.5.2 Handling labels

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3.5.2.2 Lithium battery handling label

Packages containing lithium batteries packed according to Packing Instructions 965 to 970 that are not subject to other additional requirements of these Instructions must bear a "Lithium battery" handling label ~~(Figure 5-31)~~ shown in Figure 5-31, except that for small or retail packages the label shown may be of a reduced size of either 74 x 105 mm or 55 x 130 mm. The label must show "Lithium metal batteries" or "Lithium ion batteries", as applicable. Where the package contains both types of batteries, the label must show "Lithium metal and lithium ion batteries".

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