



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

SPECIAL PROVISION A164 AND DEVICES ACTIVATED DURING TRANSPORT

(Presented by D. Brennan)

SUMMARY

This working paper proposes an amendment to Special Provision A164 to make provision for certain battery-powered devices or equipment to be shipped in an activated state.

Action by the DGP: The DGP is invited to revise Special Provision A164 as presented in the appendix.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At DGP/21 the panel adopted a new Special Provision A164 into the 2009-2010 Edition of the Technical Instructions that is assigned against all entries for batteries, battery-powered equipment, and batteries contained in or packed with equipment.

1.2 A164 requires that the batteries, equipment, device or vehicle that have the potential to generate a dangerous evolution of heat must be prepared for transport so that the batteries are protected from short circuit and the device, equipment, etc. cannot be inadvertently activated.

1.3 Following release of the 2009-2010 edition of the Technical Instructions and in particular the new lithium battery packing instructions, there has been discussion with manufacturers and users of small battery-powered temperature loggers. These devices are widely used by shippers of pharmaceuticals and other products that must be maintained within a defined temperature range at all times, including during transport. The issue here is that the temperature loggers are deliberately activated throughout the entire transport process.

1.4 As a result of these discussions some text was added into the ICAO lithium battery guidance document to identify that the condition requiring devices to be protected against inadvertent operation does not apply to devices that are intentionally active in transport provided that the device is not capable of producing a dangerous evolution of heat.

1.5 At the 35th session of the UN Subcommittee of Experts in June of this year as a result of a proposal contained in an informal paper (UN/SCETDG/35/INF.20), the Subcommittee agreed to revise special provision 188 to include a similar provision that will allow for the transport of devices that are intentionally activated.

1.6 In the normal course of events the change agreed by the UN Subcommittee would be part of the consideration by the DGP during the next biennium for adoption into the 2013-2014 edition of the Technical Instructions. However, as is identified the transport of deliberately activated devices was initially addressed by members of the DGP and it is believed that a provision to address active devices should be implemented sooner rather than waiting for the normal UN cycle.

APPENDIX

AMENDMENT TO THE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part 3

DANGEROUS GOODS LIST,
SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND
LIMITED AND EXCEPTED QUANTITIES

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Chapter 3

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

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Table 3-2. Special provisions

TIs UN

A164	Any electrical battery or battery-powered device, equipment or vehicle having the potential of a dangerous evolution of heat must be prepared for transport so as to prevent: a) a short circuit (e.g. in the case of batteries, by the effective insulation of exposed terminals; or, in the case of equipment, by disconnection of the battery and protection of exposed terminals); and b) unintentional activation.
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Devices that are intentionally active during transport, such as radio frequency identification (RFID) tags, watches and temperature loggers, must not be capable of generating a dangerous evolution of heat. These devices when active must meet defined standards for electromagnetic radiation to ensure that the operation of the device does not interfere with aircraft systems.

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