



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**

LITHIUM ION BATTERIES

(Presented by M. Rogers)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes to eliminate exceptions for lithium ion batteries. A secondary proposal would limit the number of packages of lithium batteries in a single consignment.

Action by the DGP: The panel is invited to consider removing Section II from Packing Instructions 965, 966 and 967. If this proposal is not accepted, the panel is invited to adopt a new provision limiting the number of packages offered in a single consignment. The proposed text is presented in the appendix to this working paper.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the twenty-first meeting of the Dangerous Goods Panel, a number of proposals relating to the transport of lithium batteries were adopted. These proposals did not, however, result in all lithium battery shipments being assigned to Class 9. Since the January 1, 2009 effective date of the new provisions, there have continued to be lithium battery incidents involving fire aboard aircraft, including a near catastrophic hull loss of a widebody cargo aircraft on August 14, 2009 involving lithium ion batteries.

1.2 IFALPA continues to believe that the fire risk posed by lithium ion batteries in transportation is sufficient for them to be fully regulated in Class 9, including packaging, testing, labelling and pilot notification requirements. Inclusion in Class 9 would increase the safety of these shipments and

simply the regulations, improving compliance with the provisions of the Technical Instructions. It is therefore proposed that Section II of Packing Instructions 965, 966, and 967 be deleted.

1.3 Furthermore, research by the United States Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has shown that a fire involving a single battery will likely spread to all batteries in a shipment, increasing the severity of a fire. The United States National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has also recommended that the quantity of lithium batteries be limited at any single location. If the proposal in 1.2 is not adopted, it is proposed that a limit be placed on the number of packages offered in a single consignment.

APPENDIX

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part 4

PACKING INSTRUCTIONS

PROPOSAL A

Delete Section II from Packing Instructions 965, 966, and 967

PROPOSAL B

If proposal A is not adopted, the DGP is invited to adopt the following requirement to Section II for Packing Instructions 965, 966 and 967:

Each consignment may contain no more than 10 packages containing lithium ion batteries.

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