



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 METAL BATTERIES

(Presented by M. Rogers)

SUMMARY

This paper would eliminate exceptions for cargo shipments of lithium metal batteries and prohibit their carriage except when installed in equipment.

Action by the DGP: The panel is invited to consider removing Section II from Packing Instructions 968, 969 and 970 and to revise the quantity limits against **Lithium metal batteries**, UN 3090 to “Forbidden” for passenger and cargo aircraft as shown 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. 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.

1.2 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. Furthermore, the United States National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has recommended that the quantity of lithium batteries be limited at any single location. Additional testing has shown that the Halon fire suppression systems installed on aircraft have no effect on a fire involving lithium metal batteries.

1.3 IFALPA believes it is inappropriate to provide regulatory exceptions for a commodity posing this level of risk in air transportation, and because of the inability of aircraft suppression systems to mitigate the risk, cargo shipments of lithium metal batteries should not be permitted on aircraft.

APPENDIX

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

Part 3

**DANGEROUS GOODS LIST,
SPECIAL PROVISIONS AND
LIMITED AND EXCEPTED QUANTITIES**

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Name 1	UN No. 2	Class or division 3	Subsidiary risk 4	Labels 5	State variations 6	Special provisions 7	UN packing group 8	Excepted quantity 9	Passenger aircraft		Cargo aircraft	
									Packing instruction 10	Max. net quantity per package 11	Packing instruction 12	Max. net quantity per package 13
Lithium metal batteries (including lithium alloy batteries)†	3090	9		Miscellaneous	US 2 US 3	A88 A99 A154 A164	II	E0	968 FORBI	2.5 kg-G DDEN	968 FORBI	35 kg-G DDEN

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Part 4

PACKING INSTRUCTIONS

Delete Section II from Packing Instructions 968, 969, and 970

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