



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**

PROHIBITION ON AIR TRANSPORT OF LITHIUM BATTERIES BEING SENT FOR RECYCLING

(Presented by D. Brennan)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes the addition of a new special provision to prohibit the air transport of lithium batteries being sent for recycling.

Action by the DGP: The DGP is invited to agree to the amendment proposed in the Appendix.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During the discussion of the proposed amendments to the *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* and *2007-2008 Edition* (Doc 9284) to align with the UN Recommendations at Working Group of the Whole in Montreal in April 2005 (DGP-WG/05) a concern was raised with respect to a proposed special provision that would have permitted the transport of waste aerosols and set requirements for the transport of those waste aerosols.

1.2 At DGP-WG/05 concern was expressed at the risk these waste aerosols may pose in air transport and it was therefore proposed that instead the wording of the special provision A145 be modified to state that waste aerosols are forbidden from air transport.

1.3 Recently there have been a number of incidents where lithium batteries being shipped for recycling have caught fire, with one of these being in air transport. While it appears that the air transport

consignment of lithium batteries was not in compliance with the provisions set out in the applicable packing instruction, none the less it would appear that lithium batteries being sent for recycling may pose a higher risk and their transport by air should be reconsidered.

1.4 Batteries being sent for recycling will have an unknown provenance and may have been subject to damage or abuse that may have affected the normal safety features that prevent thermal runaway.

1.5 For this reason it's believed that an additional special provision should be assigned against the entries for UN 3090, **Lithium metal batteries** and UN 3480, **Lithium ion batteries** to identify that these batteries are not permitted in air transport when being shipped for recycling.

1.6 In addition the proposed special provision, the Panel may also wish to consider the adoption of similar text into Section II of Packing Instructions 965 and 968.

APPENDIX

PROPOSED 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

Axxx Lithium batteries being shipped for recycling are prohibited from air transport.

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