



## **DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP) WORKING GROUP MEETING**

**Montréal, 1 to 5 October 2018**

- Agenda Item 3: Managing safety risks posed by the carriage of lithium batteries by air**  
**3.4: Consider measures to mitigate safety risks posed by lithium batteries carried and/or used by passengers, crew and the operator (Job card DGP.005.01)**

### **PASSENGER INFORMATION DEVELOPED TO ADDRESS THE CARRIAGE OF PEDS**

(Presented by D. Brennan)

#### **SUMMARY**

This information paper is presented to detail the information that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has developed to assist in the education of passengers on the provisions applicable to the carriage of portable electronic devices (PED) in baggage.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In January of 2018, ICAO issued a State Letter that included a survey on carriage of portable electronic devices (PED) by passengers that sought information from member States on items including the number of incidents involving fires of PED in passenger checked and carry-on baggage and the number of PED carried by passengers in checked and carry-on baggage. The purpose of the survey was to gather data on the carriage of PED in order to more precisely determine the associated safety risks.

1.2 At the same time the ICAO Secretary General wrote to the IATA Director General, requesting that IATA airline members complete the same survey. IATA proposed the distribution and administration of two separate surveys - one to airlines and one to passengers - to gather data more effectively.

1.3 IATA created a survey to airlines, which was released on 1 March 2018, with a close-out date of 31 March 2018. This was sent to airlines participating in the Global Aviation Data Management (GADM) program. The survey consisted of questions relating to the carriage of PEDs, as follows:

- 1.3.1 Does your airline permit passengers to carry PEDs in checked baggage?
- 1.3.2 Which types of devices do you permit passengers to carry in checked baggage?
- 1.3.3 How do you validate that passengers' carriage of PEDs and lithium batteries is in accordance with your policy?
- 1.3.4 How many fire or smoke accidents/incidents attributed to PEDs have been reported in your airline?
- 1.4 For passengers, the research was an online survey, carried out during March 2018, targeted at a sample of adult passengers, who have travelled by air in the last year. The sample included 250 business travellers and 250 leisure travellers from the United States, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong. The questions included:
- 1.4.1 What items are carried?
- 1.4.2 How they are carried?
- 1.4.3 How many items are carried; and
- 1.4.4 How passengers inform themselves concerning regulations
- 1.5 A total of 1,536 passengers responded to this survey.
- 1.6 The results of the airline survey indicate that airlines are well aware of the requirements, are alerting and informing their customers and are generally experiencing low rates of incidents pertaining to PEDs.
- 1.7 The passenger survey found that across three regions, passengers believed that they are well-informed about the regulations. However, in all three regions, about one third of passengers were still packing spare batteries and power banks in checked luggage, indicating that they are not as well-informed as they believe or that they intentionally disregard regulations. A higher percentage of business passengers pack spare batteries and power banks in checked baggage. Many business passengers use the services of a travel agent in the booking process.
- 1.8 Overall, it was found that while the number of incidents was very low, the exposure to risk is potentially high. A total of 36% of passengers reported carrying power banks in checked baggage and the average number carried is 2. If it is assumed that this is a representative sample, there may be a large number of power banks in checked baggage at any one time. It is unclear as to why the non-compliance is high but the fear of loss of property may be a factor
- 1.9 A third of passengers polled, rely on the check-in process for information on restrictions. Improved communication to passengers earlier in the booking process could induce an improvement in compliance.
- 1.10 Based on the results of the survey, IATA launched an awareness and education campaign on the safe carriage of lithium batteries and power banks, aimed at the travelling public and travel agents. The campaign takes the form of an infographic that has also been sent to airlines and airports.

1.11 The campaign aims to educate the travelling public on the correct handling of power banks and spare batteries; to highlight the existing prohibitions and to instruct passengers to pack these items into cabin baggage.

1.12 The campaign also instructs passengers on the correct use of PEDs in the cabin. That is, items should be monitored while in use or when charging, as there is a higher probability for failure when the devices is being charged or is use.

1.13 In addition, there is guidance on how to pack permitted items, such as laptop computers; in that these must be switched completely OFF, not in sleep or hibernate mode.

1.14 The infographic was initially translated into the six official UN languages for maximum outreach. Since then we have added Korean and Vietnamese.

1.15 The infographic is available in pdf in A4 and letter and also as a jpg, which can be incorporated into web applications or for display on TV monitors in airport terminals.

1.16 The link to the web page is as follows: <https://www.iata.org/whatwedo/ops-infra/baggage/Pages/ped.aspx>

1.17 The English version of the infographic is included in the appendix to this information paper.

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APPENDIX

**AWARENESS AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON THE SAFE CARRIAGE OF LITHIUM BATTERIES AND POWER BANKS**

**Traveling with electronic devices?  
Here's three steps to help you fly safely:**

**1** It is best to pack **lithium-powered devices** and accessories into your **carry-on bag**.



**2** Electronic cigarettes, power banks and spare batteries **MUST be kept in your carry-on bag**.



**ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES**



**POWER BANKS**



**SPARE BATTERIES**



**3** If you must pack your tablet, mobile or laptop in your checked luggage, be sure they are **completely turned off** (not in "hibernate" or "sleep" modes).



If in doubt, contact your airline.  
More information: [www.iata.org/ped](http://www.iata.org/ped)

