



**WORKING PAPER**

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)  
MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE**

Atlantic City, United States, 4 to 8 April 2011

**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 2013-2014 Edition**

**2.4: Part 4 — Packing Instructions**

**REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ABSORBENT MATERIAL FOR ALL RELEVANT  
PACKING INSTRUCTIONS**

(Presented by Adrian Tušek)

**SUMMARY**

This paper proposes amendment to all packing instructions that include an additional packing requirement of ‘absorbent material’ for inner packagings of in combination packagings.

The amount of absorbent material required is not currently defined.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Some packing instructions for dangerous goods in liquid form have an additional packing requirement for combination packagings as follows: “*Inner packagings must be packed with absorbent material and placed in a rigid leakproof receptacle before packing in outer packagings*” or a similar statement.

1.2 The amount of ‘absorbent material’ is not stated.

1.3 In relation to patient specimens in 2;6.3.2.3.6, the following absorbent material is required “*b) For liquids, absorbent material in sufficient quantity to absorb the entire contents must be placed between the primary receptacle(s) and the secondary packaging so that, during transport, any release or leak of a liquid substance will not reach the outer packaging and will not compromise the integrity of the cushioning material.*”

1.4 In Part 3;5.2.1 b) for dangerous goods in excepted quantities, the following amount of absorbent material is required *“For liquid dangerous goods, the intermediate packaging must contain sufficient absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the inner packaging. In such cases, the absorbent material may be the cushioning material. Dangerous goods must not react dangerously with cushioning, absorbent material and packaging material or reduce the integrity or function of the materials.”*

1.5 In Part 4;1.4.2 for salvage packagings, absorbent material is required such that *“.... when the salvage packaging contains liquids, sufficient absorbent material is added to eliminate the presence of free liquid.”*

1.6 The common requirement in these entries is that there is ‘sufficient absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the inner packaging’. This intent is demonstrated in Packing Instructions 451, 478-479, 480-482, 494, 620, 622, 650, and 959.

1.7 This position is also reinforced by Part 6;4.1.7 e) where the performance test requires a sufficient quantity of absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the inner packagings.

## 2. ACTION BY THE DGP-WG

2.1 The DGP-WG is invited to:

- a) consider amending the additional packing requirements for combination packagings in the listed packing instructions to specify the amount of absorbent material required for inner packagings to clarify the requirement being specified.

**Packing Instructions 350-355, 360-366, 553-554, 651-655, 657-663, 680, 850-852, 854-856**, proposed change for consideration:

### ADDITIONAL PACKING REQUIREMENTS FOR COMBINATION PACKAGINGS

#### *Packing Group I*

- Inner packagings must be packed with sufficient absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the inner packagings and placed in a rigid leakproof receptacle before packing in outer packagings.

#### **Packing Instruction 373, 493 and 494.**

Proposed change for consideration:

- Glass inner packagings must be packed with sufficient absorbent material to absorb the entire contents of the inner packagings and placed in a rigid leakproof receptacle before packing in outer packagings.

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