



Safety Information Bulletin

Operations

SIB No.: 2017-04

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Subject: Safety Precautions Regarding the Transport by air by passengers of Portable Electronic Devices containing Lithium Batteries

Ref. Publications:

- EASA Safety Information Bulletin (SIB) [No. 2015-28](#), "Passenger Awareness on the risks of Lithium batteries"
- Commission Regulation (EU) No [965/2012](#) of 5 October 2012
- International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) [Document 9284](#), "Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air" (hereafter referred to as "ICAO Technical Instructions")
- ICAO Document [9481](#), "Emergency Response Guidance for Aircraft Incidents Involving Dangerous Goods"
- ICAO Electronic Bulletin EB 2017/23 "Portable Electronic Devices"

Applicability:

Aeroplane operators.

Description:

Portable Electronic Devices (PEDs) containing lithium batteries carried by passengers should preferably be carried in the passenger cabin, on the person or in the carry-on baggage. This would enable the crew to react expeditiously in case an incident involving such PED occurs.

When the carriage of PEDs in the cabin is prohibited, this will lead to a significant increase of the number of PEDs carried in the cargo compartment, in checked baggage. This should be taken into account as part of the operator's safety risk assessment process, and appropriate precautions should be applied to mitigate the associated risks, such as fire in the cargo hold.

Recommendations:

The European Aviation Safety Agency recommends operators to inform passengers that:

- PEDs placed in checked baggage have to be completely switched off and effectively protected from accidental activation. To ensure the device is never powered on during its transport, any applications, alarms or pre-set configurations that may activate the device have to be disabled or deactivated.

This is information only. Recommendations are not mandatory.



- PEDs placed in checked baggage have to be protected from damage by applying suitable packaging or casing or by being placed in a rigid bag protected by adequate cushioning (e.g. clothing).

In cases where PEDs cannot be placed in checked baggage and are consequently placed directly in the hold (e.g. PEDs collected at the boarding gate), the European Aviation Safety Agency recommends that operators establish procedures and means to ensure that the recommendations listed above are implemented. Furthermore, such PEDs should be dispersed in the cargo hold, avoiding consolidation in a single container or location and, when practicable, away from any other dangerous goods.

Carriage of spare batteries, power banks and portable electronic smoking devices (e.g. e-cigarettes, personal vaporizers) in checked baggage is currently forbidden by ICAO Technical Instructions. Therefore, if these items are also prohibited from being carried in the cabin, operators should inform passengers in advance that they cannot carry them in either checked or carry-on baggage.

Further information on the safe transportation by passengers of lithium batteries is available on the [EASA's Dangerous Goods web page](#).

Contact:

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