



香港特別行政區政府  
民航處

Civil Aviation Department  
The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

## **Dangerous Goods Advisory Circular      DGAC 6/2008**

### **New Restrictions Concerning the Use of Aluminium Alloy Cylinders in the Air Transport of Gas Mixtures**

#### Dangerous Goods Incident

On 3 December 2007, an aluminium alloy cylinder containing an ethyl chloride mixture that had previously been transported aboard a cargo aircraft from UK, violently bursted in a cargo warehouse at Dubai Airport and injured one person. Results of a metallurgical examination by UK showed that the interior of the cylinder had been subjected to a severe corrosion attack probably caused by chemical reaction between the aluminium alloy and ethyl chloride.

#### New Restrictions

To prevent recurrence of similar incidents, ICAO and IATA had urgently placed new restrictions on the use of aluminium alloy cylinders.

With immediate effect, shippers shall not offer gas mixtures containing any of the following gases for transport in aluminium alloy cylinders (unless approved by the appropriate national authority of the State of Origin):

- a)      UN 1037      Ethyl chloride
- b)      UN 1063      Methyl chloride
- c)      UN 1063      Refrigerant gas R 40
- d)      UN 1085      Vinyl bromide, stabilized
- e)      UN 1086      Vinyl chloride, stabilized
- f)      UN 1860      Vinyl fluoride, stabilized
- g)      UN 1912      Methyl chloride and methylene chloride mixture

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Shippers, air freight forwarders and airlines operators shall pay particular attention when offering or accepting substances described by generic names (not otherwise specified / N.O.S.) for transport by air in aluminium alloy cylinders. Such generic substances must not contain the abovementioned gases.

### Reminder

Please amend your dangerous goods regulations manuals to incorporate these changes as soon as possible. The ICAO and IATA amendments are available from the internet addresses below:

- a) Addendum/Corrigendum No.2. 13 June 2008 (Doc 9284-AN/905) to ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods By Air 2007-2008 Edition

<http://www.icao.int/icaonet/dcs/9284.html>

- b) Addendum for the 49<sup>th</sup> Edition of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations Published June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008

[http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/dangerous\\_goods/download.htm](http://www.iata.org/whatwedo/cargo/dangerous_goods/download.htm)

This circular supersedes DGAC 1/2008 issued on 26 February 2008. Should you have any query about this circular, please contact Safety Officers (Dangerous Goods) at 2182 1221 or 2182 1214.

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