

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

Dangerous Goods Advisory Circular (DGAC) 2/2007

Injury of Ground Personnel and Damage to Aircraft by Undeclared Corrosive i.e. Class 8 Dangerous Goods (DG)

10 drums (440L) of undeclared Corrosive (i.e. Class 8 DG) were carried by a flight from Hong Kong to Taipei as a consolidation on 20 April 2007. The undeclared corrosive started leaking at an unknown stage and subsequently during unloading, 11 ground personnel were injured at Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport and two of them were burned chemically and hospitalized as a result. The corrosive leakage also affected the aircraft and a chemical decontamination procedure had to be carried out. Based on information available to this date, the claimed-to-be general cargo consignment was originated from Shanghai and accompanied by a laboratory certificate and a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) belonging to a non-hazardous chemical completely different from the corrosive leaked.

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Though an incident investigation is still underway, this Dangerous Goods Office is concerned with the acceptance of mis-declared DG as general cargo and the aviation safety implication of inaccurate laboratory certificates and MSDSs. All relevant parties in the air cargo industry, in particular courier or integrator, are reminded to take extreme vigilance in accepting any chemical for consignment by air which are claimed to be general cargo.

Should you have any query about this circular, please contact Safety Officers (Dangerous Goods) Mr. Eric CHIM at 2182 1221 or Mr. Alex MOK at 2182 1214.



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