

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

## Dangerous Goods Advisory Circular DGAC 5/2010

### Lithium Batteries in Passengers' Baggage

### **Background**

Large quantities of lithium batteries were recently found in checked baggage of passengers departing from the Hong Kong International Airport especially to destinations such as Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Bangkok, Dubai, Doha and Dhaka.

According to the ICAO Technical Instructions, **spare lithium batteries** for portable electronic devices such as watches, calculating machines, cameras, cellular phones, laptop computers, camcorders, etc. **must be carried as carry-on baggage for personal use only**.

#### Reminder

A recent study by the FAA indicated that lithium ion or lithium metal batteries are highly flammable and capable of self-ignition. In view of the potential threat of lithium batteries to aviation safety, the Dangerous Goods Office would like to remind all airlines and handling agents that **lithium batteries are not allowed to be carried in checked baggage**.

To prevent dangerous goods from being taken aboard an aircraft in passengers' baggage, check-in staff should seek confirmation from passengers that they are not carrying dangerous goods that are not permitted, and seek further confirmation about the contents of any item where there are suspicions.

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

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