



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 3/2015

Accepting Chemical Substances for Air Transport

Misdeclared Dangerous Goods

Recently, two consignments of chemical substances presented as general air cargo for export from the Hong Kong International Airport are suspected of containing dangerous goods. In both cases the shippers have either provided a guarantee letter or a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) to the cargo acceptance personnel stating that these chemical substances are not classified as dangerous goods. One of the consignments subsequently resulted in a chemical spillage at the Hong Kong International Airport.

It should be noted that the names of these chemical substances may not appear in the *ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (TI)* or the *IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR)* for easy checking. In one of these consignments, for example, the shipper described the chemical substance as “*4-chloro-1-butanol*”, which is neither listed in the TI nor the DGR. However, it is a Class 3 dangerous goods which should be identified as “*flammable liquid, n.o.s. (contains 4-chloro-1-butanol)*”.

Preventive Measure

The Dangerous Goods Office strongly urges airlines, issuing carriers’ agents, handling agents and freight forwarders to exercise extra vigilance when offering reservations to shippers exporting chemical substances, particularly if the shippers are new to your company, or if your company has no direct contact with the shippers and only deals with them through one or more intermediate parties. The Dangerous Goods Office also strongly urges cargo acceptance personnel to seek confirmation from shippers or other experts in case of doubt. Furthermore, these chemical substances must not be accepted for air transport unless your company has checked and is convinced that the information submitted by the shipper is correct.

- 2 -

Should you have any query about this circular, please contact Safety Officers (Dangerous Goods) at 2910 6981 or 2910 6982.

– END –

Issue date: 4 June 2015

An electronic version of this circular can be downloaded at
<http://www.cad.gov.hk/english/DGAC.html>