

# Advisory Circular

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## GUIDANCE FOR CARRIAGE AND PROHIBITION OF USE OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES BY PASSENGERS AND CREW

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1. **GENERAL.** Pursuant to paragraph 88B of the Air Navigation Order, the Director-General of the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (DGCA) may, from time to time, issue advisory circulars (ACs) on any aspect of safety in civil aviation. This AC contains information about standards, practices and procedures acceptable to CAAS. The revision number of the AC is indicated in parenthesis in the suffix of the AC number.
2. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this AC is to provide guidance for the carriage and prohibition of use of electronic cigarettes by passengers and crew.
3. **APPLICABILITY.** This AC applies to all Singapore air operators, foreign air operators operating aircraft into and from Singapore.
4. **CANCELLATION.** This AC supersedes AC DGR-8(1) issued on 1 July 2015.
5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This AC is effective from 30 December 2016.
6. **REFERENCES.** ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air - Doc 9284 (ICAO TI), ICAO Electronic Bulletin EB2015/030; AN11/2.1 dated 29 May 2015 and ICAO TI 2015-2016 Edition Addendum No. 1 – 26 MAY 2015; Air Navigation Act (ANA).
7. **BACKGROUND.**
  - 7.1 Electronic cigarettes, more commonly known as e-cigarettes, are devices that simulate smoking. Typical e-cigarettes contain lithium batteries used to operate a heating element to heat a liquid solution to produce vapour. There is a risk of accidental activation of the heating element contained within such devices, resulting in overheating and fire. This risk is of particular concern when the e-cigarette is carried in checked baggage, as overheating or fire incidents will not be able to be mitigated by the cabin crew immediately. Several incidents of this nature have been reported by other States. It has also been confirmed that vapours from e-cigarettes are able to trigger optical smoke detectors installed in various places of the aircraft such as lavatories.

**8. PROVISIONS ON THE CARRIAGE OF BATTERY POWERED PORTABLE ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES.**

- 8.1 In the 2015-2016 edition of the ICAO TI on 26 May 2015 including Addendum No. 1, e-cigarettes are now classified as battery powered portable electronic smoking devices. When carried for personal use, such devices should be carried in carry-on baggage or on the person into the cabin so that any incident originating from such devices can be immediately mitigated by the crew. Consequently, it is prohibited to be carried in checked baggage.
- 8.2 Spare batteries must be individually protected to prevent short circuits either by replacement in their original retail packaging or by insulating its terminals. Terminals may be insulated by taping over exposed terminal or placing each battery in separate plastic bag or protective pouch. Lithium batteries must be of the type and capacity permitted in portable electronic devices.
- 8.3 Although permitted to be carried in the cabin, recharging of these devices and/or batteries onboard the aircraft is not permitted. The following entry had been added to Part 8, *Table 8-1. Provisions for Dangerous Goods Carried by Passengers or Crew of the ICAO TI.*

Items or articles	Location			Approval of the operator(s) is required	The pilot-in-command must be informed	Restrictions
	Check baggage	Carry-on baggage	On the person			
Battery-powered portable electronic smoking devices (e.g. e-cigarettes, e-cigs, e-cigars, e-pipes, personal vaporizers, electronic nicotine delivery systems)	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	<p>a) Carried by passengers or crew for personal use;</p> <p>b) Spare batteries must be individually protected so as to prevent short circuits (by placement in original retail packaging or by otherwise insulating terminals, e.g. by taping over exposed terminals or placing each battery in a separate plastic bag or protective pouch);</p> <p>c) Each battery must not exceed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for lithium metal batteries, a lithium content of 2 grams; or</li> <li>- for lithium ion batteries, a Watt-hour rating of 100 Wh;</li> </ul> <p>d) each lithium battery must be of a type which meets the requirements of each test in UN Manual of Test and Criteria, Part III sub-section 38.3; and</p> <p>e) Recharging of the devices and/or batteries on board the aircraft is not permitted.</p>

**9. PROHIBITION OF USE OF BATTERY POWERED PORTABLE ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES ON BOARD A SINGAPORE AIRCRAFT.**

- 9.1 ANA Section 8B(4)(b) states that “A person who smokes in an aircraft when instructed not to smoke by any crew member or any passenger information sign or placard in the aircraft, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 months or to both”. This prohibition also applies to the use of e-cigarettes.

**10. ACTIONS BY AIR OPERATORS.**

- 10.1 All air operators should communicate restrictions on the carriage of e-cigarettes to crew and staff of their ground handling agents and provide information to passengers on the carriage and use of e-cigarettes on board an aircraft. At the time of check-in, staff of handling agents should verify that passengers and their baggage comply with the dangerous goods restrictions prior to accepting them on an aircraft.
- 10.2 Singapore air operators should communicate the prohibition on smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, during the safety briefing to passengers.

**11. CONTACT INFORMATION.**

- 11.1 Should you have any queries relating to this subject please e-mail us at [CAAS\\_Dangerousgoods@caas.gov.sg](mailto:CAAS_Dangerousgoods@caas.gov.sg).