

## **Introduction**

The packing instructions in the International Civil Aviation Organization's (ICAO) *Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air* (Doc 9284) have been the subject of an extensive review by ICAO's Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) over the last four years. This will result in significant revisions to their design and content. Since these reformatted packing instructions will have a considerable impact on Shippers, the DGP decided to publish the new provisions in the 2009-2010 edition of the Technical Instructions with an implementation date of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. The DGP agreed to a 3-month transition period to allow shippers to take care of any “in-stock” dangerous goods shipments. The transition period will allow for shipments prepared on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010 to be accepted for transport until March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

Packing instructions for Classes 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 and Division 6.1 have been revised; the remaining packing instructions are already aligned with those in the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. The objectives of the revision were:

- Enhance safety;
- Remove apparent inconsistencies in the current packing instructions;
- Facilitate employee training;
- Improve the presentation of packaging requirements to enhance user friendliness;
- Separate the passenger aircraft instructions from the cargo aircraft instructions;
- Rationalize the determination of quantities and types of packagings;
- Remove unnecessary or unjustifiable packaging restrictions;
- Improve the grouping of substances assigned to specific packing instructions;
- Minimize the number of particular packing requirements (PPR); and
- Improve harmonization with the UN packing instructions.

It must be stressed that these new packing instructions are still under review by ICAO and while the over-all philosophy and layout has been adopted, ICAO is actively seeking the input of industry in order to identify errors and omissions in the text. Consequently, the revisions should be reviewed with this in mind.

The new packing instructions are posted in PDF format and in addition an Excel spreadsheet is provided showing by UN number / packing group the existing packing instruction number and the new packing instruction number for limited quantity, passenger aircraft and Cargo Aircraft Only. These documents are available for download on the ICAO website at:

**[www.icao.int/anb/FLS/DangerousGoods/PackingInstructions](http://www.icao.int/anb/FLS/DangerousGoods/PackingInstructions)**