

Large PEDs as Checked Baggage

Based on their own security assessment, some states have recently banned large personal electronic devices (PEDs) in the passenger cabin of aircraft on specific routes which will result in a significant increase in the number of computers, tablets, cameras and other lithium battery powered devices being placed in checked baggage. This raises several safety concerns due to the nature of lithium batteries and lithium battery powered devices.

Since regulations and procedures have been developed assuming that most passengers would carry these items in the passenger cabin and not in checked baggage, IFALPA believes that additional risk assessments should be performed by operators affected by the PED cabin ban and that adequate mitigation strategies should be implemented accordingly.

These measures should include:

- clear and concise information to passengers, air crew, and airport personnel as to which devices must be carried in the cabin (such as spare lithium batteries, lithium battery power banks, and e-cigarettes) and which must be placed in checked baggage,
- procedures to ensure that the devices are completely depowered and will remain so for the duration of the flight,
- procedures to ensure that the devices are protected from damage during loading and unloading,
- consideration of the risk of interaction between increased number of lithium battery powered devices in close proximity to each other during flight,
- consideration of the risk of interaction between increased number of lithium battery powered devices in close proximity to other dangerous goods being transported in passenger baggage and general cargo.

More information on the safe transport of Dangerous Goods by air is available from the IFALPA website at <http://www.ifalpa.org/publications/ifalpa-statements/dangerous-goods.html>