

Legislative amendments on air transport of dangerous goods to be gazetted on Friday

Legislative amendments which seek to implement the latest requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for the safe transport of dangerous goods (DG) by air will be gazetted on Friday (May 23) for tabling in the Legislative Council on May 28, and targeted for commencement on July 18, 2025.

The Air Navigation (Hong Kong) Order 1995 (Amendment of Schedule 16) Order 2025 and the Dangerous Goods (Consignment by Air) (Safety) Regulations (Amendment of Schedule) Order 2025 serve to incorporate the ICAO's latest requirements in the local legislation. Such requirements are set out in a new edition (i.e. the 2025-2026 edition) of the ICAO's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Technical Instructions).

Some of the updated provisions introduced by the new edition of the Technical Instructions include:

- (a) A requirement to indicate on the DG transport document the dimensions of packages containing certain radioactive materials has been added to facilitate cargo loading procedures;
- (b) A note specifying DG allowed for carriage by passengers has been relocated to better reflect its applicability; and
- (c) Some changes to the technical requirements on the classification, packing, marking and labelling of certain kinds of DG for carriage by air have been incorporated.

"The aviation industry is supportive to the legislative amendments which aim to enhance the safe carriage of DG by air," a spokesperson for the Transport and Logistics Bureau said.

DG, in the context of air transport, include explosives, compressed gas, flammable liquids, flammable solids, oxidising substances, toxic substances, infectious substances, radioactive materials and corrosives.