



FIRE RISK OF ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES IN CHECKED BAGGAGE ON BOARD AN AIRCRAFT

This document does not change, create, amend or suggest deviations to the [Transportation of Dangerous Goods Regulations](#) (TDG Regulations).

The purpose of this document is to advise air operators, passengers and crew of the risks involved in transporting electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) in checked baggage on board an aircraft.

Definition of electronic cigarettes

E-cigarettes, personal vaporizers or electronic nicotine delivery systems are battery-powered devices that simulate smoking by producing a heated vapour which resembles smoke. The devices have a heating element to vaporize a liquid nicotine solution or dry herbs. They are composed of three main parts:

- lithium-ion battery
- e-cigarette cartridge (which may contain nicotine, flavour, fragrance and/or other contents)
- atomizer (a device that turns the nicotine solution into a fine mist or vapour)

Reasons for precautions

E-cigarettes are being carried by passengers in increasing numbers. Several incidents have been reported involving e-cigarettes overheating through the accidental activation of their heating elements resulting in fires in checked baggage.

For this reason, Transport Canada is advising air operators, passengers and crew of this safety risk and **requires that e-cigarettes be carried in the cabin**, where an incident can be immediately mitigated, and not in checked baggage.

Measures to be taken by the air operators and passengers

Spare batteries are permitted but must also be carried in carry-on baggage. Each spare battery must be individually protected so as to prevent short circuits by placing it in the original retail packaging or by insulating the terminals. This can be done by either taping over exposed terminals or placing each battery in a separate plastic bag or protective pouch.

Finally, e-cigarettes and/or batteries must not be recharged on board the aircraft, and measures must be respected by the air operators and the passengers to prevent unintentional activation of the heating element while on board the aircraft.

More information on the requirements for the transportation of dangerous goods by aircraft is available in [Part 12](#) of the TDG Regulations and Part 8 of the Technical Instructions of the [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#).

Compliance with the TDG Act and Regulations

Failure to comply with the [TDG Act](#) and TDG Regulations may lead to fines and/or imprisonment. For more information, you can visit the [TDG website](#) and the [Department of Justice website](#).

Contact us

For any regulatory questions, please [contact us](#).