

Effective: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

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#### 1. Background

During the oversight activities conducted during 2022 and 2023, several findings and observations were recorded concerning handling of Dangerous Goods shipments. Additionally, during the same period, some reports were also received from the relevant entities. Through the Safety Oversight Program and reports received, it was identified that there were delays pertaining to the collection of shipments by the consignee, which resulted in risk and non-compliance to Oman variations stipulated in the regulation.

#### 2. Applicability

#### 2.1 This CAD prescribes the requirements applicable to:

- (i) The acceptance, handling, storage and carriage of dangerous goods on aircraft entering and leaving a port of the Sultanate of Oman including all aircraft transiting in Oman FIR.
- (ii) This CAD, related Addenda, or AMC published by CAA Oman shall be complied with by all of the following:
  - (a) Oman operators;
  - (b) Foreign operators;
  - (c) Crew-members;
  - (d) Passenger handling staff and Travel Agents;
  - (e) Designated Postal operators;
  - (f) Ground Handling agents;
  - (g) Shippers, Freight forwarders (including those who are involved in processing of cargo and mail other than dangerous goods), Warehouse personnel;
  - (h) Courier companies;
  - (i) Security screeners; and
  - (j) Airport operators.

2.2 Special Cargo such as, but not limited to Live animals, Pharmaceuticals, are subject to the appropriate training and availability of the updated IATA documentation.

Lithium Batteries and Sodium-batteries including Lithium batteries in Section II are classified as Dangerous Goods in Class 9 as per the IATA DGR classification and is subject to Dangerous Goods certification. Dangerous Goods not requiring a Shipper's Declaration for Dangerous Goods (DGD) shall only be offered and accepted for air transport by CAA Dangerous Goods certified entities.

#### 3. Applicability date

This Civil Aviation Directive shall be applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025.

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Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 2 of 21

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#### 4. Reference document

- (i) ICAO Technical Instructions- The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air Doc 9284 (as amended)
- (ii) The Sultanate of Oman Law Article 27
- (iii) CAR 92 (as amended)
- (iv) CAR-OPS 1, 2, 3, and 4, Subpart R (as amended)

#### 5. Requirement and compliance timeline

5.1 Section A - Introduction and Scope

## 5.2 Short title, extent and application

These directives shall be referred to as the "Civil Aviation Directives (CAD)" and applicable to all entities referred to in para 2.1.

## 5.3 The purpose of this Civil Aviation Directive is:

- to support CAA on its efforts to prevent recurrence of Dangerous Goods occurrences and reducing the risk of hidden, mis-declared and undeclared Dangerous Goods;
- (ii) to mandate all entities to ensure accurate declaration of cargo and in particular Dangerous Goods;
- (iii) to support CAA to improve its overall control on air transportation of cargo and Dangerous Goods through continuous oversight and occurrences investigation to safeguard Civil Aviation operations in Oman against willful misconduct.

#### 5.4 Dangerous Goods and Cargo continuous monitoring program

- (i) Entities shall ensure that the Sultanate of Oman variations are in full compliance when requesting for an approval to export or import Dangerous Goods to, from, through or over the Territory of the Sultanate of Oman;
- (ii) Emphasizing on the documentation and implementation of the radiation protection program by all involved entities;
- (iii) Strengthen the oversight activities in the cargo operations stream.

#### 6. Editing practices used in this Civil Aviation Directive:

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- (i) 'Shall' is used to indicate a mandatory requirement and may appear in CARs.
- (ii) **'Should'** is used to indicate a recommendation.
- (iii) 'May' is used to indicate discretion by the Authority, or the industry as appropriate.
- (iv) 'Will' indicates a mandatory requirement and is used to advise of action incumbent on the Authority.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

## Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

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## 7. Terminology(s) (Definitions and Acronyms)

*All entities* mean any person, air operators, aerodrome operators, ground handling agents, shippers, freight forwarders, Cargo Agents, training providers and packaging suppliers involved in the transport of dangerous goods by air within the Sultanate of Oman.

Approval means an authorization issued by the Competent Authority as defined in these Regulation.

*Cargo* is any property carried on an aircraft other than mail and accompanied or mishandled baggage.

**COMAT** means Operator material carried on an operator's aircraft for the operator's own purposes.

*The Authority* means the Authority for Civil Aviation (CAA) designated by the Civil Aviation Law (as amended) to be responsible for the supervision and development of the national civil aviation affairs within the Sultanate of Oman.

*Consignee* means any person, organization or government, which is entitled to take delivery of consignments. *Consignment* means one or more packages of dangerous goods accepted by an operator from one shipper at one time and at one address meant for one consignee.

**Dangerous goods** mean articles or substances which are capable of posing a hazard to health, safety, property or the environment and which are shown in the list of dangerous goods as prescribed in ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air and the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.

**Dangerous goods accident** means an occurrence associated with and related to the transport of dangerous goods by air which results in fatal or serious injury to a person or major property damage.

**Dangerous goods incident** means an occurrence other than a dangerous goods accident associated with and related to the transport of dangerous goods by air, not necessarily occurring on board an aircraft, which results in injury to a person, property damage, fire breakage, spillage, leakage of fluid or radiation or other evidence that the integrity of the packaging has not been maintained. Any occurrence relating to the transport of dangerous goods which seriously jeopardize the aircraft or its occupants is also deemed to be a dangerous goods incident.

**Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR)** mean the current edition of the document published annually by the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

**Designated postal operator** means any governmental or non-governmental entity officially designated by a Universal Postal Union (UPU) member country to operate postal services and to fulfil the related obligations arising from the acts of the UPU Convention on its territory.

*Exception* means a provision in these Regulation, which excludes a specific item of dangerous goods from the requirements normally applicable to that item.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

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Exemption means an authorization issued by the Competent Authority providing relief from the provisions of these Regulations.

*Flight crew* means a licensed crew member charged with duties essential to the operations of an aircraft during a flight duty period.

Freight forwarder means a person or an organization who offers service of arranging the transport of cargo by air.

Ground Handling Agent means an agency, which performs on behalf of the operator some or all of the operator's functions including receiving, loading, unloading, transferring, or other processing of passengers or cargo.

*Mail* means dispatches of correspondence and other items tendered by, and intended for delivery to, postal services in accordance with the rules of the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

*Mis-declared* means dangerous goods offered for transport by air where:

- (a) they are incorrectly described on the Shipper's Declaration, such that had they been correctly described, they would not have been acceptable for carriage; or
- (b) They are found after acceptance check has been completed and do not comply with the Regulations.

**Operator** means a person, organization or enterprise engaged in or offering to engage in an aircraft operation.

**Shipment** means the specific movement of a consignment from origin to destination.

*Shipper* means the person who signs the contract of carriage with operator for the carriage of goods.

State of Destination means the State in the territory of which the consignment is finally to be unloaded from an aircraft.

**State of Origin** means the country in the territory of which the cargo was first loaded on an aircraft.

State of the Operator means the State in which the operator's principal place of business is located or, if there is no such place of business, the operator's permanent residence.

Suspension means temporary postponement of the Entity Dangerous Goods Certification.

These Regulations mean all of the requirements of the current ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Doc 9284-AN/905 as amended), IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations and as stated in CAR-92 (as amended).

Technical Instructions mean the current edition of the document published by the International Civil Aviation Organization and entitled the "Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air" (reference number: Doc 9284-AN/905).

Issue	No.	01/	Rev.	No.	01
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#### Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 5 of 21

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8. Section B – General Cargo Directives.

#### 8.1 Certification Requirements – Freight Forwarders and Cargo Agents (General Cargo Only)

The Freight Forwarder and Cargo Agent shall;

- (i) Submit completed and signed General Cargo Application to the CAA.
- (ii) Provide Comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) describing the responsibilities for personnel involved in the scope of general cargo operational flow.

Note: Appendix 2 is depicting the content of the SOP.

- (iii) Submit a current dangerous goods training certification in Dangerous Goods CBTA function of Processing or Accepting Goods Presented as General Cargo, for two certified staff as a minimum at each location or branch.
- (iv) At the time of submission of the application, the Dangerous Goods Training Certificates shall be valid for a minimum period of 3 months. After the completion of recurrent training, freight forwarders and Cargo Agents shall submit valid training certificates to CAA.
- (v) One of the CAA approved training providers, IATA Institute of Training and Development or ICAO, shall undertake the training, including knowledge of Oman domestic law and Oman Civil Aviation Regulations is required.
- (vi) When they have a warehouse, Freight forwarders and Cargo Agents shall store the general cargo shipments in an accessible designated area with proper signage in their warehouse, including Emergency Response Guidance. The warehouse must be approved by the concerned local Authority(ies), such as but not limited to Civil Defense, Municipality etc.
- (vii) In the event of the freight forwarder or cargo agent using warehouse of another entity, there must be a valid contractual agreement stating the agreed roles and responsibilities of both parties.
- (viii) Nominate a suitably qualified person as the General Cargo **focal point**, taking into consideration the person acting on their behalf, as a minimum;
  - (a) Hold a valid DG training certificate in Dangerous Goods CBTA Function: Processing or Accepting Goods Presented as General Cargo.
  - (b) Must be familiar with these Regulations.

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- (c) Must be familiar with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
- (d) Has a required minimum experience of three (3) years in air cargo related operations.
- (e) Shall be available at all times.
- (f) Has required skills to report dangerous goods occurrences, and manage the collection of information.

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Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

#### Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 6 of 21

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- (g) Where applicable, shall ensure that application for renewal of his/her entity's certificate issued by the CAA is submitted at least two months prior to the expiry date.
- (h) Maintain a current Standard Operating Procedures (up-to-date) and approved by the CAA which is available for easy reference by all staff actively involved in the receiving and handling of General Cargo.
- (i) Facilitate CAA Safety Oversight activities.
- (j) Shall delegate his/her responsibilities, when applicable, taking into consideration the person acting on his/her behalf has the same qualifications mentioned above.
- (k) Ensure holding the current edition of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations that shall be made available for use by all the appropriately trained personnel at all times.

## 8.2 General Cargo Freight Forwarders and Cargo Agents Responsibilities

- (i) Be responsible to renew their certificate every two years. The entity shall apply for renewal at a minimum of two months prior to expiry of their current certificate.
- (ii) Ensure that the General Cargo Freight Forwarders or Cargo Agents shall not be involved in transportation of Dangerous Goods.
- (iii) In the event of the General Cargo Freight Forwarders or Cargo Agents wants to involve in transportation of Dangerous Goods there must be a valid contractual agreement with a CAA Dangerous Goods Certified Freight Forwarder/ Cargo Agents.
- (iv) Ensure that all employees involved in processing and handling General Cargo shipment(s) for transport by Air are trained, commensurate with their responsibilities as specified in these CAD.
- (v) No shipment(s) shall be accepted for transport by Air until the shipper provide the shipping packing list, invoice and sign the Non-Dangerous Goods Declaration.
- (vi) No shipment(s) shall be accepted for transport by Air until it has been inspected and found free of any indications of hidden Dangerous Goods, any damage or leakage in the package.
- (vii) Preparing relevant General Cargo transport documents and keep all relevant documents in good condition and accessible to the CAA.
- (viii) Reporting to the CAA in the event of Non-Compliance with the regulations or any accident/ incident as per 8.6.
- (ix) Describe the provisions to aid recognition of hidden, undeclared and mis-declared dangerous goods.
- (x) Enhance Safety Culture by sharing the safety information, Risk Perception, Attitudes to Safety and Safety-Related Behavior, with the shippers and other entities.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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#### Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 7 of 21

صندوق البريد: 1 ، الرمز البريدي: 111 مسقط - سلطنة عُمان هاتف :44354441/2) فاكس: 4968) 44354544 (+968) P.O. Box: 1, P.C.: 111, Muscat – Sultanate of Oman, Tel Office : (+968) 24354441/2, Fax: (+968) 24354544 نـرتقـي هـام السمـاء Elevate Beyond the Sky

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#### 8.3 Recurrent Training.

- (i) If recurrent training is completed within the final three (3) months of validity of previous training, the period of validity extends from the date on which the recurrent training was completed until twenty-four (24) months from expiry date of that previous training.
- (ii) Recurrent training shall cover all aspects of initial training and shall aim to update knowledge in the light of changes to these Regulations. A test shall be conducted to verify the current knowledge, including any changes to standards or regulations, of an individual.
- (iii) In the event of interruption of operating in the handling of dangerous goods, the following shall be applied:

Period of Absence	Required recurrent training		
Up to three (3) months	Provide the employee with regulatory or business requirements, changes or updates and to ensure a full understanding of these changes		
Three (3) to Twelve (12) months	Undergo one practical assessment through either "on job training" or training simulation. The employer must provide an observation report for the employee which shall identify gaps in knowledge. The employee must be provided the applicable information in order to achieve the competency and proficiency level required for the occupied role.		
More than twelve (12) months	A recognized recurrent training program shall be completed.		

#### 8.4 Non-Dangerous Goods Declaration:

- (i) The shipper shall submit a non-dangerous goods declaration or sign an undertaking that the consignment does not contain any dangerous goods.
- (ii) The Authority dangerous goods certified entity shall also be responsible to:
  - (a) Assist and guide shipper(s) in such cases.

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- (b) Ensure the non-dangerous goods declaration or undertaking is duly signed by the Shipper. The declaration or the undertaking shall be in one of the following formats;
  - i. Manual or electronic; or
  - ii. Company's letterhead; or

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

- iii. Part of the Shipper's Letter of Instructions (SLI) form; or
- iv. Part of the Information for Declaration of Goods (IDG) form; or
- v. Part of the company's internal Shipping Instructions form;

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 8 of 21

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- (iii) The Shippers or their appointed agent shall also highlight in their statement that they will be solely liable for any adverse consequences arising directly or indirectly from an inaccurate declaration of contents or from the contents themselves.
- (iv) The completed and signed non-dangerous goods declaration or undertaking shall be retained in company's record for three (3) months.
- (v) The completed and signed non-dangerous goods declaration or undertaking shall be retained either electronically or in hard copy.

## 8.5 Retention of Documents:

- (i) Retention of Training Records
  - (a) A record of training must be maintained which must include;
    - i. The individual's name;
    - ii. Name of the assessor
    - iii. The most recent training and assessment completion date;
    - iv. A description, copy or reference to training materials used to meet the training requirements;
    - v. Proof of which tasks are covered by the training/assessment;
    - vi. Type of Training and Assessment;
    - vii. Functions and/or tasks from the task list that have been covered by the training program;
    - viii. Competency level achieved;
    - ix. Training provider name and address
    - x. Task list and proficiency level that were assessed;
    - xi. The name and address of the organization providing the training; and
    - xii. Evidence which shows that a test/assessment has been completed satisfactorily.
  - (b) Training records must be retained in a secure manner by the employer for a minimum period of three(3) years from the most recent training completion date and must be made available upon request to the employee or an authorized CAA inspector as per this regulation.
  - (c) Training records shall be kept manual or digitally for easy access of data and generation of reports. A backup system shall also be considered in case of any failure or mishaps.





- (ii) Retention of General Cargo Transportation Records.
  - (a) As a minimum, the documents which shall be retained are, the acceptance checklist, shipping packing list, invoice, and the Non-Dangerous Goods Declaration. Where the documents are kept electronically or in a computer system, they must be capable of being reproduced in a printed manner. *Note: all records shall be made available upon request to CAA.*

## 8.6 Reporting of Dangerous Goods Accident and Incident:

## (i) On-Ground Dangerous Goods Accidents and/or Incident:

- (a) Dangerous goods accidents and/or incidents shall be reported to CAA within seventy-two (72) hours of the occurrence, unless exceptional circumstances prevent this.
- (b) The initial report shall be made by any means but the MOR shall be sent as soon as possible, even if all the information is not available. This shall include on-ground accidents or incidents such as:
- (c) Reporting of any occasion when undeclared or mis-declared dangerous goods are discovered in cargo and Mail.
- (d) Reporting of any occasion when dangerous goods not permitted under 8.1.1.1 of ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods and Table 2.3.A of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations, are discovered in passengers' baggage.
- (e) In case of non-accessibility of MOR, an initial manual report shall be dispatched within seventy-two (72) hours of the occurrence, unless exceptional circumstances prevent this. The initial report may be made by any means but a written report should be sent as soon as possible, even if all the information is not available.

#### (ii) MOR Mandatory Occurrence Reporting.

- (a) All mandatory occurrence reports for dangerous goods incident/accident, shall be reported to OTSB via Email: <u>OTSB@motcit.gov.om</u>
- (b) Any accident/incident involving Radioactive Materials "Class-7" must be reported to the Competent Authority using the MOR and shall also be reported to the Ministry of Environment.
- (c) All mandatory occurrence reports shall be reported to the CAA via Safety Reporting email: <u>asr.submission@caa.gov.om</u>.

Note: All mandatory occurrence reports shall be notified the OTSB via the Hotline +968 72 11 11 35 or Email: - <u>OTSB@motcit.gov.om</u> of any reportable aviation occurrence as per CAR-13.





#### (iii) Voluntary Reporting System VRS:

All entities should report the information on actual or potential safety deficiencies that may not be captured by the mandatory incident reporting system through the Voluntary Reporting System VRS.

- (a) Voluntary reporting system is established in order to facilitate collection of, from all aviation stakeholders.
- (b) The system ensures that relevant data on safety is reported, collected, stored, protected and disseminated.
- (c) All Voluntary reports shall be notified the CAA via Safety Reporting email: <u>asr.submission@caa.gov.om.</u>

Note: Mandatory Occurrence Reporting (MORs) and Voluntary Reporting Systems (VRS) are established to enhance Safety Culture and encourage sharing of safety information with all aviation stakeholders.

#### 9. Section C - General Directives

- **9.1 Effective 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025**, all General Cargo including Dangerous Goods identified as "not restricted" in the air waybill, shall be offered for air transport only by the CAA Certified entity. The list of certified freight forwarders shall be maintained by the Cargo acceptance entity Oman SATS in coordination with the CAA Flight Safety Department.
- **9.2 Effective 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025,** Air Operators shall issue Air Waybill stock only to CAA certified entities. This shall include Freight forwarders and cargo agents who are involved in processing of cargo and mail other than dangerous goods.

Note: In the event of a Non-CAA certified DG Freight Forwarder/Cargo Agent attends to offer general cargo, there must be a valid contractual agreement between these entities and a CAA certified Freight Forwarder stating the agreed roles and responsibilities of both parties.

- **9.3** The Handling Information box of the Air Waybill shall bear the certificate number issued to the certified entity by the CAA.
- **9.4** All National Air Operators shall strengthen and reinforce the auditing system affecting all ground handling service providers subcontracted.
- **9.5** As part of the Management of External interfaces, all Omani Air operators shall strengthen the SMS implementation in cargo operations including Dangerous Goods area in consideration of the subcontracted ground handling service provider(s).

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 11 of 21

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- **9.6** The Non-Compliance to the applicable requirements to transport Dangerous Goods is subject to sanctions and penalties specified in the Sultanate of Oman Civil Aviation law, Royal Decree No. 76/2019 (available in the CAA website), Articles 62, 63 and 68. Entities must be compliant with all restrictions and conditions mentioned in the approval, certificate granted as per this Civil Aviation Directive. A non-compliance to the aforementioned is an offence to these Regulations.
- 9.7 All national Air operators are required during the upcoming oversight cycle to strength and reinforce the auditing and inspections activities to the outstation subcontracted ground handling service provider in the cargo including Dangerous Goods and ground operations streams with providing to the CAA the system to be deployed to address the aforementioned by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024.
- **9.8** The certification requirements stated in CAR 92. 455 applies for the Freight Forwarder and Cargo Agent.

## **10.** Section D – Directives on Arms, Ammunitions, Explosives and Radioactive Material

- **10.1** In accordance with DGR State Variation OMG 4, Ammunitions, Class 1 explosives (exclude division 1.4S and empty Arms) shall be collected as soon as possible and not more than 6 hours; and Class 7 radioactive material shall be collected as soon as possible and not more than 12 hours, from the time of arrival of flight. Initiation of prior arrangements shall be the responsibility of the concerned entity(ies) and to ensure compliance with regard to the escort with Royal Oman Police.
- **10.2** The carriage of arms, ammunitions, explosives and all other Class 1 Dangerous Goods shall be in strict compliance with CAR 92, ICAO Technical Instructions Doc 9284, Supplement to Technical Instructions and as per the Oman variations as amended.
- **10.3** The storage of Class 1 shipments at Oman airports and freight forwarders/cargo agent's warehouse is strictly prohibited.
- **10.4** All entities shall arrange escort with appropriate competent authority(ies) within the reasonable timeframe mentioned in **10.1** in order to prevent any non-compliance in the storage of explosives.
- 11. Section E Directives on Dangerous Goods (other than Arms, Ammunitions, Explosives and Radioactive Material)
- 11.1 All Classes of Dangerous Goods other than Arms, Ammunitions, Class 1 explosives and Class 7 radioactive material, must be collected as soon as possible from the time of arrival of flight and not more than 7 days from the time of arrival of the flight. In order to avoid any delay in collection of the Dangerous Goods and to ensure smooth and timely delivery, consignee must arrange to take necessary pre-arrival clearance in advance from all relevant authorities.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

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Note: Division 1.4S must be collected as soon as possible from the time of arrival of flight and not more than 7 days from the time of arrival of the flight.

- 12. Section F General Directives
- **12.1** Effective 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024, all entities shall document and implement an accurate tracking system to follow up the status of the shipment.
- 12.2 Effective 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024, cargo imports section shall set up and implement a system to alert the consignee/airlines as a minimum of two days before the end of the 7 days stated in the DGR State Variation OMG-07.
- **12.3** The operator shall be responsible to coordinate with the shipper to return any unclaimed Dangerous Goods shipment(s) to the State of Origin without any delay.
- **12.4** The shipper of Dangerous Goods must provide a written undertaking to re-ship the consignment at the shipper's cost and risk enforcement action if the shipment is not cleared and received by the consignee within the timeframe mentioned in 9.1 and 10.1.
- **12.5** Re-shipment of undelivered Dangerous Goods from the sultanate of Oman shall be carried out by the operator/ground handling agent or CAA approved freight forwarder(s) within 3 days from the time the shipment was not picked up in the given timeframe in paras 9.1 and 10.1, as applicable, in full compliance with these Regulations and CAR 92 (as amended).

## 13. Section G – Directives related to the processing of General Cargo, Lithium Batteries and Portable Electronic Devices containing batteries.

- **13.1** Effective 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025, all General Cargo including Dangerous Goods identified as "not restricted" in the air way bill, shall be offered for air transport only by a CAA Dangerous Goods or General Cargo Certified entity. The list of certified freight forwarders shall be maintained and updated by the Cargo acceptance entity Oman SATS in coordination with the CAA Flight Safety Department.
- **13.2** Lithium batteries including when contained in or packed with equipment must be kept away from extended exposure to inclement weather, which includes but not limited to direct sunlight, excessive heat and humidity during acceptance, storage, handling and loading.
- 13.3 Reference to ICAO Technical Instructions Part 8, Chapter 1 Portable electronic devices containing batteries should be carried as carry-on baggage.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01		Date: 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025
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Page: 13 of 21

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- 13.4 No person or entity shall accept portable electronic devices containing batteries in checked baggage.However, if carried as checked baggage the below conditions addressed in ICAO T.I. Table 8- 1 shall be adhered to:)
  - (i) measures must be taken to prevent unintentional activation and to protect the devices from damage; and
  - (ii) the devices must be completely switched off (not in sleep or hibernation mode) if the batteries exceed:
  - (iii) for lithium metal batteries, a lithium content of 0.3 grams; or
  - (iv) for lithium ion batteries, a Watt-hour rating of 2.7 Wh.
- 13.5 Electronic devices, such as electronic flight bags, personal entertainment devices, and credit card readers, containing lithium metal or lithium ion cells or batteries and spare lithium batteries for such devices carried aboard an aircraft by the operator for use on the aircraft during the flight or series of flights, provided that the batteries meet the provisions of ICAO Technical Instructions Table 8-1, Item 1), Provisions for Dangerous Goods carried by Passengers or crew.
- 13.6 Spare lithium batteries must be individually protected so as to prevent short circuits when not in use. Conditions for the carriage and use of these electronic devices and for the carriage of spare batteries must be provided in the operations manual and/or other appropriate manuals as will enable flight crew, cabin crew and other employees to carry out the functions for which they are responsible.

#### 14. Section H - Exceptions for Dangerous Goods of the operator

The provisions of these Instructions do not apply to the Referenced in CAR 92.120 (4) and CAR OPS – See AC OPS and IEM OPS-1.1260 and the ICAO Technical Instructions PART 1 Chapter 2 ;2.2 and IATA DGR 2.5 (as amended).

#### 15. Section I - Radiation Protection Programme

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**15.1** This applies to the transport of radioactive material by air, including transport that is incidental to the use of the radioactive material. Transport comprises all operations and conditions associated with and involved in the movement of radioactive material; these include the design, manufacture, maintenance and repair of packaging, and the preparation, consigning, loading, carriage including in-transit storage, unloading and receipt at the final destination of the radioactive material and packages. ICAO T.I. 1-6-1, a graded approach is applied to the performance standards in these Instructions that are characterized by three general severity levels:

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

## Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 14 of 21

صندوق البريد: 1 ، الرمز البريدي: 111 مسقط - سلطنة عُمان هاتف :44354441/2) فاكس: 4968)24354544 (1/2) بالريد: 1 ، الرمز البريدي: 11 مسقط - سلطنة عُمان هاتف :968)24354441/2 (1/2) بالريد: 1 ، الرمز البريدي: 10 مندوق (1/2) بالريدي: 10 مندوق (1/2) بالريد

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- (i) routine conditions of transport (incident free);
- (ii) normal conditions of transport (minor mishaps); and
- (iii) accident conditions of transport.
- **15.2** These directives do not apply to any of the following:
- (i) Radioactive material implanted or incorporated into a person or live animal for diagnosis or treatment;
- (ii) Radioactive material in or on a person who is to be transported for medical treatment because the person has been subject to accidental or deliberate intake of or contamination from radioactive material, considering the necessary radiological protection measures with respect to other passengers and crew, subject to approval by the operator;
- **15.3** The transport of radioactive material must be subject to a radiation protection programme, which must consist of systematic arrangements aimed at providing adequate consideration of radiation protection measures.
- **15.4** Doses to persons must be below the relevant dose limits. Protection and safety must be optimized in order that the magnitude of individual doses, the number of persons exposed and the likelihood of incurring exposure must be kept as low as reasonably achievable, economic and social factors being taken into account, within the restriction that the doses to individuals are subject to dose constraints. A structured and systematic approach must be adopted and must include consideration of the interfaces between transport and other activities.
- **15.5** The nature and extent of the measures to be employed in the programme must be related to the magnitude and likelihood of radiation exposure. The programme must incorporate the requirements documented in this chapter 9 and Programme documents must be available, on request, for inspection by the relevant competent authority.
- **15.6** For occupational exposure arising from transport activities, where it is assessed that the effective dose either:
- (i) is likely to be between 1 and 6 mSv in a year, a dose assessment programme via workplace monitoring or individual monitoring must be conducted; or
- (ii) is likely to exceed 6 mSv in a year, individual monitoring must be conducted.
- 15.7 When workplace monitoring or individual monitoring is conducted, appropriate records must be kept. Note: For occupational exposure arising from transport activities, where it is assessed that the effective dose is most unlikely to exceed 1 mSv in a year, no special work patterns, detailed monitoring, dose assessment programmes or individual record-keeping need be required.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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## Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 15 of 21

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**15.8** In the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency during the transport of radioactive material, provisions, as established by relevant national such as the environmental and health authority and/or international organizations, must be observed to protect people, property and the environment. This includes arrangements for preparedness and response established in accordance with the national and/or international requirements and in a consistent and coordinated manner with the national and/or international emergency arrangements.

**15.9** The arrangements for preparedness and response must be based on the graded approach and take into consideration the identified hazards and their potential consequences, including the formation of other dangerous substances that may result from the reaction between the contents of a consignment and the environment in the event of a nuclear or radiological emergency.

**Note:** Guidance for the establishment of such arrangements is contained in Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSR Part 7, IAEA, Vienna (2015); Criteria for Use in Preparedness and Response for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSG-2, IAEA, Vienna (2011); Arrangements for Preparedness for a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GS-G-2.1, IAEA, Vienna (2007), and Arrangements for the Termination of a Nuclear or Radiological Emergency, IAEA Safety Standards Series No. GSG-11, IAEA, Vienna (2018).

- **15.10** Personnel must be appropriately trained in the radiation hazards involved and the precautions to be observed in order to ensure restriction of their exposure and that of other persons who might be affected by their actions.
- **15.11** The radiation exposure of transport and storage personnel must be so controlled that none of them are likely to receive a radiation dose in excess of that permitted for members of the public. In special cases, arrangements may be made with the competent authority for radiological control to have such personnel classified as radiation workers and to comply with the necessary provisions.
- **15.12** All relevant transport and storage personnel must receive such instructions as are necessary concerning the hazards involved and the precautions to be observed.
- **15.13** Special considerations shall be taken by all entities and personnel involved in the transport of radioactive material with reference to Resolution no. 79/2023, The Regulation of Radiation Protection, dated 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023. However, the most restrictive Regulation shall be applicable.
- 15.14 Paragraphs from 15.1 to 15.14 of this section, shall be documented in the appropriate documents by all concerned entities. All amendments shall be submitted to CAA for approval no later than 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 16 of 21

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#### 16. Section J - NON-COMPLIANCE

In the event of non-compliance with any limit in these Instructions applicable to dose rate or contamination:

- (i) The shipper, freight forwarder consignee, operator and any organization involved during transport, who may be affected, as appropriate, must be informed of the non-compliance:
  - (a) By the operator if the non-compliance is identified during transport; or
  - (b) By the consignee if the non-compliance is identified at receipt;
- (ii) The shipper, operator or consignee, as appropriate, must:
  - (a) take immediate steps to mitigate the consequences of the non-compliance;
  - (b) investigate the non-compliance and its causes, circumstances and consequences;
  - (c) take appropriate action to remedy the causes and circumstances that led to the non-compliance and to prevent a recurrence of causes and circumstances similar to those that led to the non-compliance;
  - (d) Communicate to the relevant competent authority(ies) the causes of the non-compliance and the corrective or preventative actions taken or to be taken;
  - (e) The communication of the non-compliance to the shipper and relevant competent authority(ies), respectively, must be made as soon as practicable and it must be immediate utilising the quickest manner, whenever an emergency exposure situation has developed or is developing.

#### 17. Section K - Monitoring program

#### In accordance to CAR 92.520 Regulatory Action Chart

The criteria for Inclusion into the schedule, outlines the criteria which shall be applied for the decision-making process on those entities that have been identified during the conduct of Dangerous Goods occurrence investigation or oversight activities, whereby, official action is required for the purpose of inclusion into the CAA Cargo and Dangerous Goods monitoring program. At the discretion of CAA and subject to severity of the Dangerous Goods occurrence and non-compliance including Sultanate of Oman state variations and safety circulars the CAA may not follow the sequence of level of actions stated in the safety action matrix herein, wherefore, may directly issue a warning or include the concerned entity into the CAA reinforced Dangerous Goods and Cargo surveillance; or may decide to take other actions as per CAR 92 and CAR 12 (as amended). Upon completion of the Dangerous Goods occurrence investigation, oversight activities the concerned entity;

(i) shall receive Official Notification of Non-Compliance with CAA Civil Aviation Regulations, addressed to the Dangerous Goods Post holder of the concerned Entity.

Issue No	0. 01/ Rev. No. 01	Date: 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2	025	Page: 17 of 21
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 (ii) shall acknowledge receipt of the CAA Official Notification of Non-Compliance with CAA Civil Aviation Regulations by means of official letter endorsed by the Dangerous Goods Post holder or in case of absence his deputy.

Note: Refer to Appendix 1.

## 18. Section L - Corrective and Preventive Action (CAPA)

Entities subject to cargo oversight activities shall without delay submit their CAPA to CAA considering the following;

- (i) using the entity's letterhead.
- (ii) the CAPA details the sequence of events, addresses the seriousness of the occurrence, implementable and includes a method or a process for implementation and compliance monitoring within a specified timeframe. The below mentioned parameters must be adhered to.
- (iii) For each action mentioned in the CAP the following steps must be reflected:
  - (a) Review, Amend, Approve and Implement the updated procedure or manual
  - (b) The designated entity/department to undertake the action
  - (c) Realistic deadline for implementation as per the table
  - (d) Progress of achievement to be monitored
  - (e) Evidence to be provided
  - (f) Status of the action
  - (g) Monitoring the efficiency of the action taken by means of spot check, supervision, oversight, audit, inspection...etc.
- (iv) the CAPA is submitted as per the CAA system provided to the entities subject to audit.
- (v) a Senior Manager of the entity endorses the CAPA.

Delay in submitting the Corrective and Preventive Action may result in legal adverse consequences.

#### **19.** Conclusion

All entities in Sultanate of Oman are required to review and apply the necessary amendments to their current relevant process and procedures to safeguard the transportation chain in the cargo operations area.

**20. Remark:** For any question concerning the technical content of this Directive, please contact the Flight Safety Department at email: <a href="mailto:gops@caa.gov.om">gops@caa.gov.om</a>.





#### Appendix 1

#### **Safety Action Matrix**

Phase 1	Parameters	Actions to be taken	Monitoring
An occurrence other than a dangerous	More than 3 occurrences a	Action shall be taken	Monitor
goods accident associated with and related	year per entity.	as per Regulatory	the safety
to the transport of dangerous goods by air,		action chart CAR	standards
not necessarily occurring on board an		92.520 and CAR 12	quarterly.
aircraft, which results in injury to a person,			
property damage, fire, breakage, spillage,			
leakage of fluid or radiation or other			
evidence that the integrity of the packaging			
has not been maintained. Any occurrence			
relating to the transport of dangerous			
goods which seriously jeopardizes an			
aircraft or its occupants is also deemed to			
be a dangerous goods incident.			
(This may involve Forbidden, Undeclared			
and mis- declared dangerous goods)			
Non-respect of CAA Oman State variation	3 delays in the collection of	Action shall be taken	
by Omani and Foreign operators	shipment within one year.	as per CAR 12	
Non-compliance with the Sultanate of	Level 1 finding	Action as per CAR 92	
Oman Civil Aviation Law.		and CAR 12	
Non-compliance with the CAA CAR-92.	Recurrent findings within a	Action as per CAR	
	period of certification or	92.520 Regulatory	
	surveillance cycle (2 years)	action chart	
	or non-respect of Oman		
	state variation with level 2		
	findings raised.		
Non-adherence to CAA Audit/Inspection	Recurrent findings within a	Action as per CAR	
findings and the given timeframe for	period of certification or	92.520 Regulatory	
rectification	surveillance cycle (2 years)	action chart	
and compliance.	or non-respect of Oman		
	state variation with level 2		
	findings raised.		

Note: This CAD in entirety or relevant parts will be incorporated in the next amendment of CAR 92.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 19 of 21

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## Appendix 2: Contents of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) submitted for freight forwarding shall contain the following in detail but is not limited to:

- (a) Introduction and purpose of the SOP.
- (b) Scope of Operations.
- (c) Focal point contact information, and role(s) with respect to the administration of the entity's overall operation.
- (d) Acceptance of General Cargo including personnel effects and unaccompanied baggage using Packing list, invoice and acceptance checklist.
- (e) Shipper's responsibility and Freight Forwarder's responsibility, in the event of acting on behalf of the shipper.
- (f) Procedure to maintain the updated list of all third parties acting on behalf of the entity for training, handling, offering for transporting general cargo.
- (g) Describes how special cargo (AVI, HEA, PER, HUM) are prevented from entering the system without appropriate preparation.
- (h) States the procedures for accepting general cargo ensuring that Dangerous Goods do not enter the system when they are not permitted.
- (i) Training requirements including procedures to determine CAA approved training providers and instructors.
- (j) Recurrent training and procedure to document and maintain currency of the certification and retention of training records.
- (k) Procedures for cargo intended for air transport is carried by surface transport to or from an airport, any other applicable national or modal transport requirements are met in addition to those that are applicable for the goods when carried by air.
- (I) Provisions to aid recognition of hidden, undeclared and mis-declared dangerous goods.
- (m) Describe the measures the entity will take to ensure hidden, undeclared and mis-declared dangerous goods are not entering through general cargo.
- (n) Describe the measures to ensure shipments offered as "Not restricted" is accurately documented.
- (o) Describes the procedures and the form of promulgating information on hidden, undeclared and mis-declared dangerous goods to shippers and walk-in customers.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

@CAAOMN

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## Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

Page: 20 of 21

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- (p) Describes the procedures for shipments with GHS pictograms which may indicate the presence of dangerous goods.
- (q) Procedure for retention of documents which shall include the documents to be retained, period of retention and how the documents will be retained (hardcopies or electronic). If electronic, the procedure for backup in the case of any unforeseen circumstances of failure of the main system.
- (r) Procedures to describe the accuracy of issuing Air Waybill and/or other transport document(s).
- (s) States how the staff is to report emergencies involving dangerous goods.
- (t) Procedures for managing a dangerous goods incident/accident on the ground.
- (u) Procedures for managing and follow when reporting hidden, mis-declared or undeclared dangerous goods.

#### Notes:

- 1. Reference from the SOP must be duly reflected in the entity's reference column in the application.
- 2. The aforesaid requirements for the preparation of the Standard Operating Procedures is non-exhaustive.
- 3. Format of the acceptance checklist to be incorporated in the SOP.s
- 4. Format of Non- Dangerous Goods declaration to incorporated in the SOP.

Issue No. 01/ Rev. No. 01

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## Date: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025

#### Page: 21 of 21

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