

## GACA Safety Bulletin

GACA SB-109-001  
Issuance Date: 16-July-2024

### Guidance Material on Handling and Transportation of Lithium Batteries by Air

#### Applicability:

<b>Aerodromes:</b>	All Certificated/Authorized Aerodromes under GACARs Parts-139, 138, and 137.
<b>Airworthiness:</b>	All Certificated Aircraft Maintenance Organizations under GACAR Part 145.
<b>Flight Operations:</b>	All Certificated Air Operators under GACARs Parts-119, 121, 135,125, and 133.
<b>Ground Services:</b>	All Certificated Ground Services Provider under GACAR Part-151.
<b>Others:</b>	All Certificated Shippers, Freight Forwarders under GACAR Part-109.

This document is available at: <https://gaca.gov.sa/web/en-gb/page/safety-bulletins>

#### **General:**

GACA Safety Bulletins (SBs) are issued under the authority of the GACA Executive Vice President of Aviation Safety & Environmental Sustainability. GACA SBs contain important safety information and may include recommended actions. Besides the specific action recommended in a GACA-SB, an alternative action may be as effective in addressing the safety issue named in the GACA-SB. The contents of a GACA-SB document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. GACA SBs are intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under GACA regulations.

#### **Purpose:**

Reference to the Fifth Safety Enhancement Initiatives Group meeting (SEIG/5) of the Middle East Regional Aviation Safety Group, and National Continuous Monitoring Coordinator (NCMC) meetings, which has been held in Doha, Qatar in 2023. The statute of implementation of the 2023 SEIGs has been presented, including the endorsement of the guidance material on the carriage and transport of lithium batteries.

#### **Background:**

The meeting noted with appreciation the guidance material developed by IATA on the carriage of Lithium batteries (LB). To address operational safety risks IATA developed a guidance document. The purpose of the document is to provide guidance for complying

with provisions applicable to the transport by air of lithium batteries as set out in the Dangerous Goods Regulations. The meeting was informed that lithium batteries (LB) are classified as dangerous goods and are subject to regulations that prescribe specific design type, testing, packaging, quantity limits, labelling and documentations requirements for carriage as cargo by air. Also noted that it is designed to outline potential strategies operators which may wish to consider addressing and mitigating the risks associated with the transport of lithium batteries, in cargo and mail as well as in passenger and crew baggage. Accordingly, the meeting endorsed the carriage and transport of Lithium batteries guidance material.

**Recommendations:**

Based on the ICAO's advice IATA developed Lithium battery guidance documents to provide guidance for the safe compliance to the transport of lithium batteries by air. All affected entities are advised to use the current guidance materials/ Regulations to ensure safe of carriage of Lithium batteries to, from, and within the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

**Availability of the IATA Document:**

- Lithium Battery Risk Assessment Guidance for Operators – 3rd Edition. Available at:  
[https://www.iata.org/contentassets/05e6d8742b0047259bf3a700bc9d42b9/lithium\\_battery\\_risk\\_assessment\\_guidance\\_for\\_operators.pdf](https://www.iata.org/contentassets/05e6d8742b0047259bf3a700bc9d42b9/lithium_battery_risk_assessment_guidance_for_operators.pdf)
- IATA Lithium Batteries page:  
<https://www.iata.org/en/programs/cargo/dgr/lithium-batteries/>

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**EVP, Aviation Safety & Environmental Sustainability**



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