



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION

CSC 02 of 2016

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CABIN SAFETY CIRCULAR

File No AV 15025/Cabin Safety/2016-CS
Effective: 01st Nov 2016

Sub: Electronic Cigarettes/Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) on Board an Aircraft or in an Aircraft area

1. INTRODUCTION

Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), also called e-cigarettes, personal vaporizers, vape pens, e-cigars, e-hookah, or vaping devices, are products that produce an aerosolized mixture containing flavored liquids and nicotine that is inhaled by the user. ENDS can resemble tobacco products like cigarettes, cigars, pipes, or common gadgets like flashlights, flash drives, or pens. These products are not yet regulated nor approved for smoking cessation by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the long-term health effects to users and bystanders are still unknown.

The amount of nicotine in a cartridge can vary widely and their safety is unknown.

In accordance to Rule 25 of Aircraft Rules, 1937, No person shall smoke:

(a) in any part of an aircraft or in its vicinity, in which a notice is displayed indicating that smoking is prohibited.

(b) anywhere in an aircraft during take-off, landing or refuelling or during a period in which a notice is temporarily displayed indicating that smoking is prohibited.

IATA in their guidance on e-cigarettes notes that, "Several incidents have been reported involving electronic cigarettes overheating by way of their heating element being accidentally activated, resulting in a fire in checked baggage."

2. PURPOSE

Since Electronic Cigarettes/ENDS are a potential health hazard with safety implications, the purpose of this Cabin Safety Circular (CSC) is to provide guidelines for airlines to

develop policy and procedures to ensure non usage and proper stowage of Electronic Cigarettes/ENDS on Board Aircraft or aircraft area. Further, where the electronic cigarettes are powered by lithium batteries, the stipulations of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) 2nd Edition effective May 2015, Para 2.3.5.9 and 2.3.5.17 must be met and as updated in the DGR document from time to time. This requires that spare lithium batteries and the electronic cigarettes must be carried in passenger carry-on baggage. In addition, recharging of electronic cigarettes and/or batteries on board the aircraft is not permitted

3. APPLICABILITY

This Cabin Safety Circular is applicable to all Indian operators engaged in scheduled and non-scheduled commercial air transport as well as State Government aircraft and General Aviation aircraft.

4. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OPERATOR

Electronic, simulated smoking materials (cigarettes, pipes, cigars) are prohibited from use by both passengers and crew at all times. Operators should not permit the use of any item which could insinuate that smoking is permitted on board aircrafts. They can be accepted on board in the passengers carry on baggage, for passenger use at destination, provided they remain stowed and unused at all times in the passenger's carry on baggage.

Operators should develop procedures to ensure passengers are advised to remove electronic cigarettes (valet/Sky check) or in cases where excess carry on baggage must be placed in the hold.

Airlines should develop inflight procedures by way of placards/warnings inside the lavatories, safety announcements, Passenger Briefing cards etc.

Operators are required to communicate their electronic cigarette policy to passengers as widely as possible, including but not limited to: their website, during ticket purchase, the check-in process (on-line, kiosks, check-in agents, etc.) and through any other means already established to inform passengers of dangerous goods regulations and related company policies.

Sd/-
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for Director General of Civil Aviation