



## 2011 Packing Instruction Transition Guidance

26 November 2010

The packing instructions in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)'s Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Technical Instructions) (and consequently the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations) have been the subject of an extensive review by the ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel (DGP) over the last four years. These changes are now published in Section 5 of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations.

The ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel has agreed to a 3-month transition period to allow shippers to take care of any "in-stock" dangerous goods shipments. The transition period allows for packages prepared on or before 31 December 2010 in accordance with the 2010 edition of the DGR to be accepted for transport until 31 March 2011. DGR Reference 5.0.6.2 contains a note to this effect.

**Note:** *To assist shippers in the transition to the new packing instructions that become effective in this edition of these Regulations, packages prepared for transport before 31 December 2010 using packing instructions in the 51st edition may be presented for transport until 31 March 2011. Where this transitional provision is being used the shipper must indicate on the Shipper's Declaration the packing instruction number in effect in the 51st edition.*

IATA has included a new Appendix H in the 52<sup>nd</sup> edition of the DGR to assist acceptance staff with the transition period. Appendix H contains a list by UN number showing the packing instruction numbers and the maximum net quantity applicable in the 51<sup>st</sup> Edition.

When the transitional provisions are being used, the Shipper's Declaration must show the packing instruction number applicable in the 51<sup>st</sup> edition of the DGR. In this instance the date on the Shipper's Declaration should be the date the document was prepared, i.e. a date up to and including 31 March 2011.

One important factor to keep in mind is that the reformatting accomplished the removal of inconsistencies, systematic allocation of substances and articles to packing instructions and removing Particular Packing Requirements (PPR). Therefore a package prepared in accordance with the 51<sup>st</sup> Edition Packing Instruction is equally safe to a shipment prepared in accordance with the 52<sup>nd</sup> Edition.