

Issued: 17 April 2012

## **The Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Weapons in Connection with the Olympic and Paralympic Games**

**This Information Notice contains information that is for guidance and/or awareness.**

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Information Notice is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

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| <b>Applicability:</b>                 |  |
| <b>Aerodromes:</b>                    | All Aerodrome Licence Holders and PRM Service Providers  |
| <b>Air Traffic:</b>                   | Not Primarily Affected   |
| <b>Airspace:</b>                      | Not Primarily Affected   |
| <b>Airworthiness:</b>                 | Not Primarily Affected   |
| <b>Flight Operations:</b>             | All UK AOC Holders, All Non-UK Operators Operating to the UK and All Ground Handling Organisations |
| <b>Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:</b> | Not Primarily Affected   |

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 With the Olympic and Paralympic Games being held in the United Kingdom in 2012, teams competing in the Games are likely to carry items that are classified as 'dangerous goods' and/or weapons. Large numbers of visitors, officials and media will also travel by air to and from the Games. Accordingly, it is expected that there will be an increased number of sporting weapons, ammunition and electric mobility aids carried and there is also the risk of passengers attempting to carry items of dangerous goods that are not permitted.

### **2 Scope**

- 2.1 This Information Notice is intended to remind all applicable organisations of the requirements that apply to the carriage of dangerous goods and weapons as cargo or by passengers so that any such items are carried appropriately, without causing unnecessary delay and so that the likelihood of passengers carrying prohibited items is reduced.
- 2.2 Organisations and their employees need to be familiar with the areas discussed in paragraphs 3 to 6 below.

### **3 Competing Teams, Individual Competitors and Other Passengers**

- 3.1 Teams and individual competitors are likely to want to carry various items for medical purposes, such as aerosols, medicines and oxygen. When carried by passengers as

baggage, these are subject to the dangerous goods requirements that apply to all passengers. There are quantity limits that apply and some may only be carried with the approval of the aircraft operator. Details of permitted items and the conditions that apply can be found in the *What Can I Carry?* document on the [Airlines - Dangerous Goods](#) webpage.

3.2 When sent in bulk by teams, the above items and any other dangerous goods must be treated as cargo rather than passenger baggage and therefore have to be prepared, packed, marked, labelled, documented, handled and loaded on the aircraft in accordance with the requirements that apply to all dangerous goods carried as cargo. In addition, aircraft operators are required to hold the following approvals:

- UK operators must hold approval, granted by the CAA, to carry dangerous goods.
- Non-UK EU-OPS operators must hold approval from their own competent authority.
- Non-UK non-EU-OPS operators must hold approval from their own competent authority and the UK CAA to carry dangerous goods.

For details of how to apply for a UK CAA dangerous goods approval, see the [Airlines - Approvals and Exemptions for Aircraft Operators](#) webpage.

## 4 Battery-Powered Mobility Aids

4.1 Persons of reduced mobility, particularly those competing in the Paralympics but also other visitors, may be travelling with their electric mobility aids (i.e. electric scooters or electric wheelchairs). These can vary greatly in design, type of battery, size and weight. There are specific requirements that apply to ensure that electric mobility aids are made safe prior to being loaded on an aircraft and to ensure that, when they are loaded, account is taken of:

- the aircraft's loading limitations; and
- securing the mobility aid and ensuring it cannot become damaged or operated inadvertently.

Detailed information can be found in Safety Notice [SN-2012/003](#).

## 5 Weapons

5.1 Shooting teams and individual competitors will be carrying weapons to and from the Games and there are also likely to be teams participating in qualifying competitions in the months leading up to the Games. The CAA regards weapons carried for these events as 'sporting weapons' regardless of the calibre or type of weapon involved. The requirements that apply are regardless of whether the weapons are carried as passenger baggage or as cargo, but do vary slightly depending upon which regulations the aircraft is operating under, as follows:

5.2 EU-OPS and JAR-OPS operators are subject to OPS 1.070 and JAR-OPS 3.070 respectively which require, amongst other things, that the weapons are to be carried on the aircraft in a place which is inaccessible to passengers during flight, unless their own National Aviation Authority has determined that compliance with that requirement is impractical and has accepted that other procedures may apply. Operators wishing to carry weapons in accessible locations need to seek acceptance of their procedures well in advance.

5.3 All other UK operators, non-UK non-EU-OPS operators when in UK airspace and any passengers carrying weapons in baggage are subject to Article 134 of the Air Navigation Order 2009. This also requires weapons to be carried in a part of the aircraft that is inaccessible to passengers, but does not give any provision for carriage on aircraft where this cannot be achieved. Therefore, any such operator that needs to carry weapons but cannot comply with Article 134 will need to contact the Dangerous Goods Office (see paragraph 8 below) and apply for an exemption from that requirement, well in advance of carriage.

- 5.4 It should be noted that the above requirements only concern the carriage on board an aircraft and that other regulations will apply to the ground handling, storage and surface transport of weapons. Further information can be found at: [London 2012 Customs and Freight Manual](#).

## 6 Ammunition

- 6.1 Ammunition for the Games and any qualifying competitions must be treated in the same way as weapons (see paragraph 5 above), but is additionally classified as dangerous goods and therefore all of the dangerous goods requirements also apply. Passengers are permitted to carry up to 5 kg gross of ammunition (classified in Division 1.4S), as checked baggage only, securely packaged and only with the approval of the operator. For all of the dangerous goods requirements that apply when carried by passengers, see the link in paragraph 3.1 above. It should be noted that where more than one person is travelling with ammunition it cannot be combined into one or more packages, so each person must carry their own ammunition in their own checked baggage. Where greater quantities need to be carried, or where it is combined into one or more packages, it must be shipped as cargo in accordance with the dangerous goods requirements that apply to cargo and by an operator that holds an approval referred to in paragraph 3.2 above.

## 7 Further Olympic Information

- 7.1 The NATS Aeronautical Information Service (AIS) website homepage has a dedicated section containing details of:

- London 2012 Olympic airspace restrictions;
- temporary airport slot coordination procedures; and
- temporary Air Traffic Services (ATS) routes, Standard Arrivals (STARs), holds and controlled airspace.

Further publications will be added to these in due course. Additional information, advice and guidance on flight during the Olympic period are available at:

<http://olympics.airspacesafety.com>.

## 8 Queries

- 8.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communication should be addressed to the Dangerous Goods Office, by e-mail to [dgo@caa.co.uk](mailto:dgo@caa.co.uk) or by telephone on +44 (0)1293 573800.

## 9 Cancellation

- 9.1 This Information Notice shall remain in force until 30 September 2012.