

19 October 2006

New EU regulation regarding liquids in hand luggage

A new regulation (EU 1546/2006) regarding the transportation of liquids in hand luggage has been approved and will be applicable as from 6 November 2006. You can find the text that the EU will publish as 'Information to the Passenger' below. This text can be used for further cascading of information to your colleagues and customers.

NEW EU SECURITY RULES AT AIRPORTS A BRIEF GUIDE TO HELP YOU

A new threat to aviation security has emerged: liquid explosives. To protect you from this risk, the European Union has adopted new security rules for passengers and their hand luggage. The new rules restrict the amount of liquids that you can take through security checkpoints. They apply to all passengers departing from airports in the EU whatever their destination. The new rules mean that, at security checkpoints, you and your hand luggage must be checked for liquids in addition to other prohibited articles. Security staffs now have an extra item to detect, so some further rules have been adopted specifically to help them.

The new rules apply from Monday, 6th . November 2006 at all airports in the European Union until further notice. 

WHAT IS NEW?

While packing

You are only allowed to take small quantities of liquids in your cabin luggage or on your person. These liquids must be in individual containers with a maximum capacity of 100 milliliters' each. You must pack these containers in one transparent, re-sealable plastic bag of not more than one liter capacity.

At the airport

You must:

- present the plastic bag containing your liquid containers to the screeners at security checkpoints for examination;
- take off your jacket and/or coat. They will be screened separately whilst you walk through the metal detector;
- remove laptop computers and other large electrical devices from your cabin luggage. They will be screened separately whilst you walk through the metal detector.

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Liquids include:

- water and other drinks, soups, syrups
- creams, lotions and oils
- perfumes
- sprays including shaving foam, other foams and deodorants
- gels, including hair and shower gels
- contents of pressurised containers
- pastes, including toothpaste
- liquid-solid mixtures
- any other item of similar consistency

WHAT DOES NOT CHANGE?

You can still:

- pack liquids in bags that you check-in - the new rules only affect cabin luggage,
- carry in your cabin luggage medicines and dietary requirements, including baby foods, for use during the trip. In this case, there are no restrictions on the quantity of liquids that you can carry,
- buy liquids, such as drinks and perfumes, in an EU airport shop located beyond the point where you show your boarding pass. If they are sold in a special sealed bag, wait until you are screened before opening the bag. Here again there are no restrictions on the quantity of liquids that you can buy.

If your journey includes a transfer to another flight at an EU airport, you can still buy liquids either in an EU airport located beyond the point where you show your boarding pass or on board an aircraft operated by an EU airline. The liquids will be sold in a special sealed bag. Wait until you are screened at the [last] airport of transfer in the EU before opening the bag.

(...) Please be courteous and co-operate with airport security and airline staff.

This document has been developed by the European Commission, the Association of European Airlines and Airports Council International.