



Civil Aeronautics administration

Aviation Safety Bulletin

ASB No: 92-001/DG

OCTOBER, 2003

Subject : A shipper marked “Toluene” as “Glue” to be shipped by an air freight forwarder. After consolidation with other shipments, the forwarder delivered to a local air carrier to ship to Macau as “Elect Goods”. After the aircraft arrived in Macau on July 18, 2003, leakage of the dangerous goods were found in the cargo compartment.

Background :

1. Investigation indicates that the shipper had not complied with the regulations in IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) 1.3. It is the shipper’s responsibility to determine the classification, identification, limitation, packing, labeling, documentation and declaration of the dangerous goods being shipped.
2. After accepting and consolidating this consignment, this particular air freight forwarder did not comply with the “Regulation Governing Air Freight Forwarder” Article 20 and DGR 1.3.3.2.6. The freight forwarder shall ensure the dangerous goods he accepts and consolidates meets the DGR regulations before submitting to the air carrier.
3. One month after this event occurred, the air carrier submitted the “Dangerous Goods Occurrence Report” to CAA after investigation.

Recommendation :

1. CAA has submitted the amendment of the “Civil Aviation Law” to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for approval. That would provide penalties against shippers regarding undeclared or mis-declared shipment. Once the amendment is approved, CAA will enforce the management of dangerous goods for air transportation.
2. Air Freight forwarders shall comply with the “Regulation Governing Air Freight Forwarder” Article 21 and DGR1.5, assigning persons for training in shipping dangerous goods and to enhance the management of consignment of dangerous goods.
3. Aviation Police Bureau shall also enhance the examination of air cargo to prevent undeclared or mis-declared dangerous goods in air transportation.
4. According to DGR regulations Figure 9.6A Note 5, an operator shall initially notify CAA to co-investigate the event within 72 hours when suspicions of undeclared dangerous goods are found in air transportation. Operators shall also document these regulations in the Company’s Dangerous Goods Handbook.