



Civil Aviation Authority
SAFETY NOTICE
Number: SN-2015/006



Issued: 23 October 2015

Management of Cabin Baggage in the Event of an Aircraft Evacuation

This Safety Notice contains recommendations regarding operational safety.

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

Applicability:	
Aerodromes:	Not primarily affected
Air Traffic:	Not primarily affected
Airspace:	Not primarily affected
Airworthiness:	Not primarily affected
Flight Operations:	All AOC Holders
Licensed/Unlicensed Personnel:	Not primarily affected

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The implementing rule in EASA-OPS Part-CAT.OP.MPA.170(a) requires that passengers are given briefings and demonstrations relating to safety in a form that facilitates the application of the procedures applicable in the event of an emergency.
- 1.2 Evidence from evacuations of aeroplanes since 2013 has shown that significant numbers of passengers attempt to take hand baggage with them when evacuating an aircraft. Such passenger behaviour can present a significant hindrance to egress, injury to other passengers and damage to evacuation slides.
- 1.3 The purpose of this Safety Notice (SN) is to draw operators' attention to the need to manage passenger behaviour so that they do not attempt to take hand baggage with them during aircraft evacuations.

2 Compliance/Action to be Taken

- 2.1 Many UK operators currently include instructions to leave hand baggage behind in the event of an evacuation as part of the pre-flight passenger safety briefing, and often pictorial information is included on the safety card. However, some passengers appear not to assimilate, or not to heed such information and remain unaware of its significance to their, and their fellow passengers', overall safety.

- 2.2 Operators should review their procedures and the manner by which passengers are informed of pre-flight safety information. This should include the contents of briefings and safety cards in order to ensure that clear instructions to leave hand baggage behind in the event of an evacuation, and the potential consequences of not doing so, are included and embedded in passenger awareness. Consideration should also be given to the content and method of delivery, taking into account passenger behaviour and distraction during pre-flight safety briefings.
- 2.3 Operators should also review their procedures and training for passenger management during an evacuation; including verbal instructions to leave hand baggage behind and actions to be taken by cabin crew should passengers attempt to remove hand baggage. This should include management of passengers with hand baggage at exits in order to maintain expediency of egress, ensuring cabin crew intervention does not hinder evacuation.

3 Queries

- 3.1 Any queries or requests for further guidance as a result of this communication should be addressed to the FO.Cabin.Safety@caa.co.uk email address.

4 Cancellation

- 4.1 This Safety Notice will remain in force until further notice.