



Ground Ops Safety Alert

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE CIRCULATED TO IMPROVE SAFETY AWARENESS

Loading of Wet Cargo (WET)

WET cargo is defined as cargo from which liquids may naturally leak due to the nature of the load, with the exception of Dangerous Good, e.g., live animals, fresh or frozen meat, fish shipments cooled with water, ice, etc.

During transportation, loads are influenced by several factors such as change of temperature, change of humidity, change of pressure and vibration. Additionally, during climb and descent, the aircraft can fly at angles up to 30 degrees to the horizontal.

Under these conditions, Wet Cargo may spill or leak, which could lead damage to the aircraft structure or its compartment, it may also damage other loads.

Corrosion to the aircraft hold can be a consequence of exposure to leakage from wet cargo.

When handling and loading wet cargo, special care shall be taken that:

- the floor of the compartment and/or the unit load device as well as other load is protected.
- containers are stowed in upright position
- load packages in accordance with orientation labels.
- damaged packages or packages suspected to be damaged must not be carried.

Handling Procedure

Ramp staff shall:

- inspect the shipments before loading,
- not accept cargo packages that appear damaged or are not leak-proof
- do not load wet cargo packages
- supervise off-loading from the compartment and inspect the cargo compartment
- immediately report any water leakage

Proceed with aircraft loading by the following sequence:

- lay out one layer of plastic foil – big enough to cover the complete shipment – inside the compartment to protect the aircraft floor and walls and catch any spillage or leakage
- load shipments till compartment is available.
- Do not follow the slope of the compartment (see pic below)
- always respect the maximum height line inside compartments (if not present limitation is 3in/5cm from ceiling)
- always respect LIR

It is mandatory requirement that when handling cargo which produce a significant quantity of liquid, moisture, that the hold floor of the aircraft or ULD is protected with polythene and/or other absorbent material to contain any leakage or spillage. When there is a doubt about the nature of the shipment, clarification must be requested from the shipper to ensure protective measures are taken.

