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Dear Customer

Civil Aviation Authority – The Transport Of Dangerous Goods

Today we received a letter from the Civil Aviation Authority advising they have received reports suggesting a number of consignments originating from our clients contained goods defined as “dangerous goods”. However because the consignments were not marked or labelled correctly they were forwarded for air transportation in apparent contravention of the applicable regulations.

It transpires that a number of our carrier partners choose to ship goods to Northern Ireland by air and in this case all packages are routinely scanned at various airports in the UK.

You are reminded that that even if you intend or expect a particular consignment to only travel by road, when it is handed over to a courier company, because of the network system, they may decide that part of the journey will be by air, or they may pass the consignment over to another company that uses air transport within their network, even for relatively short distances within the UK.

Unless a road transport consignment is clearly marked as containing dangerous goods in accordance with the requirements for that mode of transport, there is nothing to warn the carrier that it is not in a condition to be carried by air.

Dangerous goods can be carried by air but they must comply with the Air Navigation (Dangerous Goods) Regulations 2002 and the requirements of the International Civil Aviation Organizations Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (Technical Instructions). Shippers of dangerous goods have a responsibility under the Regulations and the Technical Instructions to ensure that all applicable requirements are met; these include correctly classifying and identifying dangerous goods, packing them according to a prescribed method and providing a dangerous goods transport document with the consignment.

Failure to comply with the legal requirements is a **criminal offence** punishable by a fine of up to £5,000.00 in a magistrates court or an **unlimited fine and/or two years imprisonment** when convicted in a crown court. The CAA have advised us that the originator of the consignment is responsible for considering which modes of transport may be used and for ensuring the consignment complies in all respects with the applicable transport requirements; this responsibility is not transferred to any intermediary and such parties are under no obligation to notify the shipper of such details.

For the avoidance of doubt, we do not accept any DG for onwards carriage unless you have been formally vetted and accepted by our individual carrier partner.

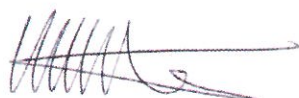
Further information as to the classification of Dangerous Goods can be found on the website:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/cdg/manual/classification.htm>

The CAA have also advised that on this occasion they have decided not to refer the matter to the CAA's Investigations and Enforcement Team but in the event of any future reports they are bound to take account of previous incidents.

If you are unsure, concerned or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with your Sales Representative.

Yours Sincerely



Kate Webb

Client Services Manager



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