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Transport of dangerous goods by air

Background

The ICAO Technical Instructions contain regulations governing the worldwide transport of Dangerous Goods by air. There are numerous cases where the level of safety provided to all-cargo operations is less than that provided to passenger operations. ICAO dangerous goods regulations do recognize that different rules for passenger and all-cargo operations exist because pilots of freighter aircraft might have alternate means of dealing with on board emergencies due to cargo accessibility and more divert options as compared with pilots engaged in passenger operations. The differences are only meant to recognize that certain options might provide equivalent levels of safety on all-cargo aircraft, not to provide for different levels of safety between all-cargo and passenger operations. The current regulations, however, allow for lower levels of safety in all-cargo operations.

Position

IFALPA believes there should be one level of safety for all flight operations, and therefore the ICAO Technical Instructions should be amended to ensure that there are no differences in the safety standards between all-cargo and passenger operations.