Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

IATA In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist

15 March 2023

1. What is the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist and how does it differ from the Live Animal Acceptance Checklist?

To assist shippers, agents and operators in preparing shipments for air carriage, the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board has developed a basic **Live Animal Acceptance Checklist** (LAR 7.6.1) and an **In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist** (LAR 7.6.2).

The **In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist** applies to all animals being transported in-cabin/onboard the aircraft (above the wing). Therefore, it applies to all PETC.

The **Live Animal Acceptance Checklist** applies to all animals being checked into the cargo hold (below the wing). Therefore, it applies to all AVIH.

The In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist **must not** be used for animals checked into the cargo hold (AVIH).

A copy of the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist can be obtained <u>here.</u>

2. What is the effective date of the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist?

The **In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist** has been effective as of 1 January 2023.

3. Which animals are accepted for in-cabin transport?

Animals accepted in-cabin/onboard the aircraft are defined by individual Operator policy.

4. Does the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist apply to service and emotional support animals?

The **In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist** applies to both service animals (SVAN) and emotional support animals (ESAN), when these are accepted in-cabin/onboard the aircraft, as per Operator policy.

Depending on the Operator policy, the container considerations in section 4 of the In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist may not be applicable to service animals (SVAN) and emotional support animals (ESAN).

5. Why is the Operator required to retain a copy of the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist?

The Operator must retain a copy of **the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist** for audit purposes and to demonstrate compliance with the standard in case of incidents.

6. What flights does the In-Cabin Live Animals Acceptance Checklist apply to?

The **In-Cabin Live Animal Checklist** applies to short-haul and long-haul flights, on domestic as well as international routes.

7. What is Container Requirement 1 and how does it apply to animal transport in cabin?

Container Requirement 1 of the IATA Live Animal Regulations outlines the requirements for suitable containers for cats and dogs traveling by air. It provides guidance for determining the appropriate size of the traveling container and other container requirements both for the cargo hold/manifest cargo and in-cabin transport.

A copy of Container Requirement 1 can be obtained here.

8. How must Operator and Ground Handling crew be trained?

Personnel must be trained on the requirements for the transportation of live animals, such as container requirements and being able to identify non-compliance, i.e. (un)suitable size of a container, ability for the animal to sit, stand, turn around and lie down in a natural position.

Operators and ground handlers are at liberty to develop their own training for relevant staff which ensures knowledge and understanding for the successful application of the standard.

Acceptance staff and other live animal handling staff at the airports (i.e., passenger check-in staff, cargo acceptance staff and ground handling staff involved in the handling of live animals) must be trained.

The training for acceptance staff, as a minimum, should include topics like container requirements, documentation requirements and awareness of the animal health and national and international welfare regulations.

Training for aircraft and ground handling personnel should include awareness of animal health, including but not limited to signs of behavioral and environmental stress. The training shall be followed by a formal test (or at least a certificate of completion or record of completion) designed for each group/category of personnel.

Local government regulation may also set standards for training topics and required competencies.

The [IATA Live Animals for Passenger Handling Personnel](#) course is specially designed for passenger handling personnel and provides, working knowledge of the IATA LAR to ensure that live animals are transported in compliance with airline regulations and animal welfare standards.

9. How is the In-Cabin Live Animal Acceptance Checklist applicable and enforced in my country?

The IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) provides the minimum standard for transporting live animals by air and IATA Member Airlines are bound by IATA Resolution 620 to comply with its principles and provisions for the acceptance and carriage of live animals in full aircraft loads.

Many countries have also adopted the IATA LAR as part of their national legislation.

Non-compliance may be reprimanded by fines and legal action.