

EN
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Answer given by Mr Hoekstra
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.11.2024)

The EU Aviation Security Regulation¹ establishes a general restriction at EU airports, limiting access to boarding areas with liquids, aerosols, and gels (LAGs) over 100 ml, with exceptions for special diets, baby products, and medicines. This restriction is due to the limitations of traditional security equipment, such as X-ray machines, in detecting liquid explosives. To address this, airports have deployed C3 EDSCB² systems capable of screening baggage with liquids inside.

The Commission confirms that urgent aviation security measures related to LAGs have been introduced, establishing that, as of 1 September 2024, the maximum volume of individual LAG containers in cabin baggage is limited to 100 ml. This applies to all EDSCB C3 equipment configurations that received the EU Stamp before 1 August 2024³.

This precautionary measure is based on technical information received by the Commission and validated by the European Civil Aviation Conference States and laboratories, showing that the existing configurations of standard C3 EDSCB equipment need to be revised to improve their performance in detecting liquid explosives. Manufacturers must review these configurations and subject them to additional testing. The 100 ml restriction will be lifted once newly configured C3 EDSCB equipment has been tested and approved to meet the required detection standards. The Commission is working with stakeholders to resolve this issue, but no specific date for lifting the restriction can be given until testing is successfully completed.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32008R0300>

² EDSCB C3 refers to Explosive Detection Systems for Cabin Baggage with Standard C3, which allows the screening of baggage containing portable computers, other large electronic items, and Liquids, Aerosols and Gels (LAGs).

³ Commission Implementing Regulation 2024/2108 of 29 July 2024, amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/1998 regarding urgent aviation security measures related to equipment for the security screening of Liquids, Aerosols, and Gels.