



AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS - CARGO LOADING & OFFLOADING

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES



Purpose	3
Activity Description	3
Expectations	3
Best Practices:	3
Shall Not:	4
References	4
Contacts	4
Additional Resources	4



PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on DEN's expectations for cargo loading and unloading activities, largely to prevent and mitigate environmental impacts such as spills and releases and reduce air emissions. This supports DEN's industrial stormwater management plan and ensures compliance with the airport's individual industrial stormwater permit, which requires that best management practices are installed, implemented, and maintained to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges. It also requires that potential pollutant sources are identified that may impact stormwater quality. Each operator and tenant conducting cargo loading and offloading activities is responsible for understanding the applicable regulations and managing their activities; this Environmental Guideline is meant as guidance only and does not supersede any regulations.

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The following guideline outlines the general operating requirements involved in cargo loading and offloading. Environmental and safety hazards must be considered when conducting these activities on the concourse ramps, South Cargo ramps, and Signature ramp. Such activities include the loading and offloading of passenger luggage, domestic and international mail and consumer products, pets and exotic animals, food and chemicals. All airlines, express and delivery services, and food catering services must be compliant with federal, state, and local environmental laws, regulations, and permits, and adherence to DEN rules and regulations. Environmental requirements and best management practices for ramp operations are in Rule and Regulation 40: Conduct of Commercial Operators using the Airport. Additional environmental requirements for business partners are in Rule and Regulation 180, which reviews DEN's EMS. Requirements for ground service equipment and automotive/powered equipment, ramp cleanliness, snow removal, and fire extinguisher maintenance and placement are in Rule and Regulation 170: Operation and Control of Air Cargo.

EXPECTATIONS

Best Practices:

- Ramp employees must complete a training program that shall inform personnel at all levels of responsibility who are involved in activities that may impact Stormwater runoff. Training shall address topics such as spill response, good housekeeping, and material management practices. Contractors or temporary personnel shall be informed of the organization's operation and design features in order to prevent discharges or spills from occurring. Records of this training should be maintained and available upon request.



- Ramp employees must ensure that spill kits are adequately stocked and immediately clean up spills where they occur.
- All chemicals unloaded from aircraft must be placed on secondary containment, even if being temporarily stored, to prevent spills and risk of stormwater runoff. All chemical handling must be compliant with USDOT requirements.
- All cargo must be properly stored and handled to prevent spills, ensure ramp cleanliness, safety, and ease of access for emergency vehicles, equipment, and personnel.
- Clean up all F.O.D and place in designated containers.
- Check all ground service equipment and vehicles for hydraulic oil leaks before use.
- Store all ground service equipment in designated areas.
- Turn off diesel or gasoline powered equipment if uncertain of expected idle time.
- Portable extinguishers shall be maintained in fully charged and operable condition and kept in their designated places at all times.
- If a spill occurs, refer to Environmental Guideline Spill Response and call DEN Communications Center immediately at 303-342-4200.

Shall Not:

- Spills of any kind shall not be washed into any DIW trench drains, stormwater, sewer drains, waterways or onto any soils.
- Do not block or restrict the flow of air through any ventilation equipment within the baggage/cargo handling areas, especially in the tunnel.
- Do not drive a gasoline-fueled vehicle into the baggage tunnels
- Do not block or restrict entryways and paths to the ramps, buildings, or aircraft
- Do not stack and store cargo in such a way that it can potentially fall on and injure personnel, pose the risk of spills, and damage other ramp equipment or aircraft.
- Do not store chemicals that may not be compatible with each other

REFERENCES

Contacts

- DEN Communications Center (for spill reporting): 303-342-4200
- DEN Environmental Services (Main Line): 303-342-2730; DENEnvironmental@flydenver.com

Additional Resources

- 49 CFR 100 – 185 DOT
- 29 CFR 1910.146 Permit Required Confined Space Entry



- CDPS MS4 Permit (Permit No. COS000001, Part I.B.1.a.2)
- DEN Rule & Regulations 40, 170, and 180
- DEN Industrial Stormwater Management Plan