



Consumers win on duty free & travel retail under new security rules

Brussels - 06 November 2006:

New EU aviation security measures will not restrict airport shopping after boarding pass control, and will standardise rules at all airports located in the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland.

From today, once passengers are airside (through the boarding pass inspection point), they can buy as usual from any airport retailer. The only noticeable change for passengers will be that liquids, gels and pastes purchased from airside retail outlets will be sealed in transparent plastic bags. These bags should not be opened until the passenger has reached final destination.

Having goods placed in sealed transparent bags is of particular importance to transfer and same-day return passengers. All airports in the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland will accept unopened sealed bags from other airports in the same zone as being secure and will allow them through security screening the same day of travel. However, if bags have been opened prior to transfer or return, the goods will not be allowed through security.

Sealed bags will only be accepted as secure the same day of purchase. Passengers not returning the same day must place purchases made on the outward leg of the journey in their check-in baggage (unless the items are 100ml or less in which case they can form part of the normal liquids allowance). *

ETRC President Frank O'Connell welcomed the new regulations;

"The European travel retail industry has worked closely with the European Commission to devise a security programme for airside retail that delivers enhanced security without hindering airport shopping. The sealed bag programme is simple, efficient and convenient for passengers." said O'Connell.

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Note to Editors:

* These new rules mean that passengers checking in for flights will be required to carry any liquids, gels or pastes in a transparent bag. Each individual liquid, gel or paste item may be no larger than 100ml in size and all items must fit into a transparent bag with a capacity not larger than 1L. The transparent bag containing the liquid, gel or paste items can be transported within normal hand luggage, but it must be presented to airport staff for inspection when passengers pass through security. These rules will have no bearing on liquids bought in duty free and travel retail shops.

The new EU aviation security measures apply to all airports located in the EU and European Economic Area (EEA) countries.

The move to security sealing goods purchased from airside retail outlets is one of three key new EU aviation security measures. The other two include new regulations on the carriage of personal items, also effective from 6 November 2006, and on the size of hand baggage, which will enter into force on 17 April 2007.

The European Travel Retail Council represents the interests of companies retailing tax and duty free products and services to international air and sea travellers. The organisation works closely with European and international government, regulatory and other stakeholders and is composed of national trade associations made up of over 500 European companies.

The European Travel Retail Council's operations are directed by its supervisory board and carried out by a full-time secretariat headquartered in Paris. For more information about the organisation, please see our website – www.etr.org