

Responses to frequently-asked questions on the new IATA 'Cabin OK' optimum bag size guidelines

The FAQs refer to this press release: http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/Pages/2015-06-09-02.aspx

IATA is a standard-setting organization. Is this new carry-on size a new standard for the airline industry?

No. Those who participate are not being asked to change their existing requirements. Some or all may continue to accept bags larger than those qualifying for the IATA Cabin OK logo.

Is IATA seeking a new agreement among airlines regarding permissible carry-on luggage?

No. Airlines will participate or not depending on their independent assessment of the program's value.

Are there rules governing a participating airline's implementation of the program? For example, is IATA requiring participating airlines to remove and check non-Cabin OK bags in order to make room for the Cabin OK bags of late-boarding passengers?

Other than agreeing to treat Cabin OK bags as acceptable as carry-ons, there are no rules governing airlines' implementation of the program. Airlines that choose to participate will also determine independently how best to take advantage of the program.

My current carry-on is the same size as the new IATA Cabin OK bags. Do you have an IATA Cabin OK bag tag that I can attach to my bag?

No. The only bags eligible for the IATA Cabin OK logo are those manufactured after the launch of the program by participating luggage makers in keeping with IATA Cabin OK specifications.

My current carry-on is larger than IATA Cabin OK bags. Will airlines now insist that I check it? Will I have to buy a new, smaller carry-on?

No. Each airline is free to set its own policy regarding baggage, but this new initiative is not expected to result in any sudden spate of baggage rule changes.