



Compliance Airworthiness Regulations Education

SCOPE:

Many industries today publish some kind of “Code of Practice”. Type “Code of Practice” into Google and depending where you are a long list of different versions of Code of Practice will come up. Many are published by governmental bodies, others by trade associations. The Collins English dictionary defines Code of Practice as “a set of written rules which explains how people working in a particular profession should behave”, which seems to meet perfectly with the needs of the airline industry when it comes to ULD Operations and Handling.

A Code of Practice (COP) can range from being many pages long to being something quite concise. In the case of ULD Handling and Operations, where the very extensive material of the ULD Regulations already exists, there is no need to duplicate, we only need to summarize the key essentials of ULD Operations and Handling down to a maximum of about 10-15 different, easily understood operating practices that we would like to see being used 24/7 across the air cargo industry.

In general signing up to a COP is not a legal commitment to follow the practices, rather signing up to the COP is an undertaking by an organization or person to be responsible to implement the practices to the best of their ability and circumstances. From a ULD perspective this seems quite workable, as long as the key practices are broad and well defined so that they allow scope for local implantation in different ways while still achieving the top level objectives.

It is the ambition of ULD CARE that in publishing and promoting this COP, it can be widely accepted by the entire industry, airlines, ground handlers, cargo terminals, freight forwarders, airports, transport providers... anyone whose operation has some ULD content. To achieve this objective we need to meet certain goals:

- Create a concise and understandable COP that reflects the needs of the ULD Operations and Handling and which will be widely accepted by the whole industry on a voluntary basis
- Promote and sign up to the COP through extensive publicity and endorsement
- Create an on line register of signatories to the COP, enabling parties to simply and easily carry out on line registration, and make available an on line index of those parties who have signed up to the COP, enabling any party looking for suppliers of services involving ULD activity to check to see if potential suppliers have signed up to the COP.
- Create simple supporting material such as pocket guides that support adoption of the COP

Sign up to the ULD COP is voluntary, and ULD CARE makes clear that it has neither the intention nor the resources to monitor compliance. Of course this can lead to widely varying standards of adoption of the COP, but what matters is that by having a ULD COP in place there is a very clear and easily understood set of operating standards, based on the ULD Regulations, that become the expected practice and that could be addressed in relevant content in the SLA. No doubt some airlines may already publish their own COP for cargo operations and even ULD operations, and there is no ambition to compete with or supersede such COP's, the point of a ULD CARE ULD COP is to establish a global, industry wide COP that will provide clarity and definition to ULD operations.



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IMPLEMENTATION:

It is the ambition of ULD CARE to complete all details of the ULD COP during the 2016 Annual Conference and the program allows time for extensive discussions if needed. We are looking for a collaborative effort, not only within our membership but hopefully with representatives from other sectors such as freight forwarders, ground handlers etc. Ideally by the conclusion of the conference, we will be in a position to implement the COP and start signing up and if we are to achieve this during the event we need to put some group thinking into this concept right away. The ULD CARE membership comprises of many hundreds of man years of ULD experience and what we ask you each to do is to take 10 minutes out of your no doubt busy schedules, put the phone on silent, get a cup of tea or coffee and brainstorm what you would like to see as simple, one line descriptions of Standard Operating Practices for ULD Operations and Handling. By doing this and emailing your ideas back to Louise Ladouceur before 1 August we will be able to consolidate your inputs into a basis for the final COP!!!

To kick start this process here is a list of likely key functions that should be included.

1. Storage facilities
2. Storage operations
3. Transport facilities
4. Transport operations
5. Warehouse facilities
6. Warehouse operations
7. Build up
8. Break Down
9. Serviceability and Airworthiness
10. Transfer
11. Documentation
12. General care and attention
13. Knowledge and training

This list is not meant to be complete, additional functions may well be suggested.

The second part of the process is to define a suitable COP for each function. What is the expectation of the ULD owner and the obligation of the party adopting the COP. We invite ULD CARE members to provide suggested standard definitions for as many of the functions as possible. We can then consolidate these for use in the discussions at the conference.



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ULD CARE CODE OF PRACTICE INPUT

You are invited to provide your feedback/ideas below. Fill in the blanks, save your completed copy and send your input by email to louise.ladouceur@uldcare.com

Ideas for ULD CARE ULD CODE OF PRACTICE

A. Functions

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Storage facilities | 10. Transfer |
| 2. Storage operations | 11. Documentation |
| 3. Transport facilities | 12. General care and attention |
| 4. Transport operations | 13. Knowledge and training |
| 5. Warehouse facilities | 14. _____ |
| 6. Warehouse operations | 15. _____ |
| 7. Build up | 16. _____ |
| 8. Break Down | 17. _____ |
| 9. Serviceability and Airworthiness | 18. _____ |

B. Suggested standard for each Function (2 examples given but feel free to suggest alternatives)

Function	Expectation
Storage facilities	Have sufficient and suitable storage facilities to accommodate typical inventory of ULD securely and without damage.
Knowledge and training	All staff carrying out any kind of ULD Operation and Handling to have undertaken formal training to the level appropriate to their function.

Thank you!