

COMPLIANCE BULLETIN

DHS Issues Electronic Device Ban for Certain U.S. Inbound Flights

OVERVIEW

On **March 21, 2017**, the U.S. [Department of Homeland Security](#) (DHS) issued a [directive](#) that bans carrying any electronic device larger than a cellular or smartphone into an airplane cabin in U.S. inbound flights that originate from certain countries. Affected devices include laptops, tablets, e-readers, cameras, portable DVD players, electronic game units (larger than a phone), and travel printers and scanners.

The ban affects only flights from 10 international airports in Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates. Domestic U.S. flights and flights departing the United States are not affected.

Airlines are expected to comply with this directive by **March 25, 2017**. The directive will remain in force indefinitely, until the threat currently perceived by DHS diminishes.

ACTION STEPS

- ✓ Employers should review their travel procedures to evaluate whether their personnel may be affected by this directive.
- ✓ Employers should ensure that affected employees are aware of the directive so they can plan ahead with respect to electronic devices (such as checking luggage).

HIGHLIGHTS

- The ban affects airports in Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates.
- The ban applies to any electronic devices larger than a phone.
- Airlines are expected to comply by 8:00 a.m. EDT on March 25, 2017.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 21, 2017

DHS issues electronic ban directive at 8:00 a.m. EDT and gives airlines 96 hours to comply.

March 25, 2017

Electronic ban becomes effective and remains effective until further notice.

Provided By:

Touchstone Consulting Group

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The Electronic Device Ban

The ban requires affected passengers to check affected electronic devices with their luggage. This means that affected passengers will not be able to carry affected devices with them into the cabin or simply store them in their carry-on luggage. DHS explained that the directive was issued to prevent possible terrorists from smuggling explosive devices in various consumer items.

The ban affects only U.S. inbound flights from the following 10 airports:

- ✓ Queen Alia International Airport (AMM);
- ✓ Cairo International Airport (CAI);
- ✓ Ataturk International Airport (IST);
- ✓ King Abdulaziz International Airport (JED);
- ✓ King Khalid International Airport (RUH);
- ✓ Kuwait International Airport (KWI);
- ✓ Mohammed V Airport (CMN);
- ✓ Hamad International Airport (DOH);
- ✓ Dubai International Airport (DXB); and
- ✓ Abu Dhabi International Airport (AUH).

The ban applies to all passengers traveling through and from these locations to the United States, regardless of trusted traveler status.

More Information

Please visit the DHS website or consult the corresponding [FAQs](#) for more information regarding this directive.