

When is Competency Based Dangerous Goods Awareness Training Mandatory?

Sofema Online considers the mandatory Competence Based Dangerous Goods Awareness Requirements

From 1 January 2023, all employers of personnel performing functions aimed at ensuring that dangerous goods are transported in accordance with the ICAO Technical Instructions (TI) must establish and maintain a dangerous goods training programme that includes a competency based approach to training and assessment (hereafter referred to as CBTA).

The relevant applicable group typically includes, but may not be limited to, the following entities:

- Operators approved to transport dangerous goods.
- Operators not approved to transport dangerous goods.
- Ground handling and cargo agents.
- Freight forwarders.
- Shippers of dangerous goods (unless otherwise stated in the TI).

The implementation of CBTA may be a significant change from traditional training and testing methods and the transition will need to be carefully managed to maintain a high standard of staff competence.

All employers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the changes to the TI, the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (IATA DGRs) (if applicable) and other supporting material such as ICAO Doc 10147, Guidance on a Competency-based Approach to Dangerous Goods Training and Assessment, and begin implementing CBTA at the earliest opportunity.

Key considerations when implementing CBTA include:

- Training must include 'general awareness/familiarization training', 'function-specific training' and 'safety training'.
- Personnel who are assigned to new functions must be assessed to determine competence in respect of their new function.
- Other than for designated postal operators, the 'Categories of Staff' previously used to define the content of training courses, are no longer applicable (but may still be used as a guide).
- It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that personnel are competent to perform any function for which they are responsible prior to performing any of these functions.
- Whilst third-party training providers may be used to conduct the training and/or competence assessment, the responsibility for ensuring that personnel are competent remains with the employer.

Sofema Online (SOL) www.sofemaonline.com provides online training which is convenient and is compliant with and based on the latest edition of the IATA DGR. The courses are developed according to the recommendations of the IATA Dangerous Goods Training Guidance 2023 for competency-based training and assessment.

It is based on the tasks that Student /Delegate would typically perform, and where training and assessment is required.

The training has been produced to help attendees achieve appropriate knowledge and skills in their functions specific to the transport of dangerous goods by air.

Next Steps

Please see [www.sofemaonline .com](http://www.sofemaonline.com) or email team@sassofia.com