The new rules mean that, at security checkpoints, you and your hand luggage must be checked for liquids in addition to other prohibited articles. These new rules have been adopted to specifically assist the security officials to detect any threat.

The new rules apply from Monday, 6th November 2006 at all airports in the European Union until further notice.

Liquid explosives are the latest threat to the safety and security of passengers. To protect you from this risk, the European Union has adopted new security rules for passengers and their hand luggage.

The new rules restrict the amount of liquids that you can take through security checkpoints. They apply to all passengers departing from airports in the EU, whatever their destination.

A brief guide to help you

Whilst packing
• Only small quantities of liquids are allowed in your hand luggage or on your person.
• Liquids are to be placed in an appropriate re-sealable bag.
• Each item placed in the standard plastic bag must not exceed 100ml in volume.
• Only standard re-sealable plastic bags (size 18cm x 20cm) shall be accepted
• Items placed in the plastic bag must fit in comfortably.
• Each passenger has an allowance of ONE (1) standard plastic bag with a maximum volume of one litre.

What is new?

At the airport
You are to present the plastic bag containing your liquid items separately from the hand luggage to the security staff for examination.
You are to take off your jacket and/or coat. These will be screened separately whilst you walk through the metal detector.
Please remove any laptop computers and other large electrical devices from your hand luggage. They will be screened separately whilst you walk through the metal detector.
After security check the plastic bag can be placed in the hand baggage.

Liquids include:
- water and other drinks, soups, syrups
- creams, lotions and oils
- perfumes
- sprays
- gels, including hair and shower gels
- contents of pressurised containers, including shaving foam, other foams and deodorants
- pastes, including toothpaste
- liquid-solid mixtures
- any other item of similar consistency

What does not change?

You can still pack liquids in the luggage that you check-in – the new rules only affect hand luggage.

Medicines and dietary requirements, including baby foods, for use during the flight can still be packed in the hand luggage. In such cases, there are no restrictions on the quantity of liquids that can be carried.

You can still buy liquids, such as drinks and perfumes, in an EU airport shop located beyond the security point where you present your boarding pass. If these items are sold in a special sealed bag, wait until you are screened before opening the bag. Here again there are no restrictions on the quantity of liquids that you can buy.

If your journey includes a transfer to another flight at an EU airport, you can still buy liquids either from an EU airport located beyond the security point where you present your boarding pass or on board an aircraft operated by an EU airline. The liquids will be sold in a special sealed bag. Wait until you are screened at the [last] airport of transfer in the EU before opening the bag.

If you have any doubts about what you can take with you, please ask your airline or travel agent in advance of travel.

These measures are being introduced for your own safety and therefore your cooperation and understanding with airport security and airline staff would be greatly appreciated.

The standard re-sealable bags can be purchased from most outlets and will be also available for sale from Malta International Airport.

This document has been developed by the European Commission, the Association of European Airlines and Airports Council International.

Disclaimer
This document summarises for your information the main elements of the relevant EU legislation. Any legal action or claim should be based solely on the actual legal texts.