

# Stowage of Manual Wheelchairs on Aircraft



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of Aviation Enforcement and Proceedings



# Outline

- What is Seat-Strapping?
- Who does this Rule cover?
- Requirements of the Rule
- Protections Afforded by the Rule
- Benefits of the Rule
- Questions & Answers



# What is Seat-Strapping?

- Alternative method of transporting folding passenger wheelchairs in the aircraft cabin
- Involves placing a folding passenger wheelchair across a row of seats using a strap kit that complies with FAA or other foreign government safety regulations

# Who does this rule cover?

- US Carriers – New aircraft with 100 or more passenger seats ordered after April 5, 1990, or delivered after April 5, 1992.
- Foreign carriers – New aircraft ordered after May 13, 2009, or delivered after May 13, 2010.

# General Requirements

- There must be priority space in the cabin for a manual passenger wheelchair
- The space must be big enough to stow a wheelchair with the following dimensions without disassembling:  
**13 in x 36 in x 42 in**
- Space must be other than space for carry-ons

# SEAT-STRAPPING

## **IF** Seat-Strapping:

- Carriers generally must transport **TWO** wheelchairs if requested – **382.67(b)**
- If stowage of a wheelchair displaces passengers, they would be entitled to Denied Boarding Compensation in accordance with 14 CFR Part 250 – **382.67(d)**

# CLOSET

## **IF** Closet:

- Only **ONE** wheelchair required
- Carriers must install a **SIGN** or **PLACARD** on the closet indicating that wheelchairs and other assistive devices take **priority** over other passenger or crew luggage
- Effective date: January 11, 2013

## Protections Afforded by Rule

- **Pre-Boarding:** For all in-cabin wheelchair requests, carriers must offer pre-boarding – **382.67(f)**
- Carriers may **never** request or suggest that a passenger should not stow his or her wheelchair in the cabin – **382.67(e)**

# Benefits of Seat-Strapping

- Allows greater access to passengers with a disability – More than one manual wheelchair can be accommodated in the cabin
- Provides airlines with flexibility on how to carry manual wheelchairs in the cabin

# Questions & Answers