

ICAO Technical Specifications of STEBS ICAO TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR STEBS
Materials to be used for STEBs are as follows:

The bag itself must be:

- transparent, high-impact low-density polyethylene or equivalent.
- recyclable and environment-friendly products, if possible; and
- size and thickness to be adjusted according to needs, with a minimum thickness of 50 microns.
- all STEB bags must contain at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.

On the top face of STEBs the closure mechanism requires:

- red tamper-evident tape – a minimum 30 mm tape with a 40 mm release liner.
- a pressure-sensitive, self-adhesive, initial high tack seal to ensure security and tensile strength immediately after the bag has been sealed.
- an integral security device or hidden graphic to reveal whether tampering has occurred. If an attempt is made to remove the tape, the previously hidden message is irreversibly revealed. This graphic must remain visible even if exposed to freezing conditions or heated to the point where the bag begins to melt; and
- a hidden security message using the back of the tape, which can be printed with a copyrighted logo or graphic device in a continuous pattern as an added security element.

The border of the bag requires:

- a side and bottom weld (twin seal or wide flat) of no less than 15 mm with a printed border.

- a printed border at least 5 mm wide with DO NOT OPEN or an airport name or an aircraft operator name or any other continuous message or design which may bleed over the edge of the bag.
- a background in red, although the colour and font of the printing are unspecified and may vary; and
- weld construction techniques (embossing) and protection of the inside of the seal, minimizing the risk of tampering. This feature is not required but is encouraged. Also optional is the use of an integral security device or hidden graphic to show whether there has been tampering with the borders.

The message shown requires a:

- security sign in green (Pantone 368C) in the middle of the security box. The diameter of this sign should cover, at a minimum, 33 per cent of the width of the bag; and
- box in red (Pantone 485C) at the bottom stating “Do not open until final destination – contents may be confiscated if bag is tampered with”; and

Confirmation and identification features require:

- a receipt space or optional pocket inside the bag, visible on the top left of the security box, that should contain the following information:
- date of purchase in dd/mm/yyyy or dd/mm/yy format.
- place of purchase, whether State, airport and/or aircraft operator, using international codes.
- flight number(s) and name of passenger, if possible; and • number and list of items purchased and placed in the bag; and (ii) the origin of the bag, which should contain the following information:
- State three-letter code to determine the State of origin where the STEB was provided to the passenger, or airline international code (for duty-free sales on board) to determine the origin of the STEB.

- manufacturer's name with full ICAO registration number; and
- inventory code and security code or device to protect STEBs at retailers and shops.

- There is no specific technology imposed for the security code or device, which is intended to ensure proper control over STEBs in the supply chain as well as maintaining their traceability in case of investigation, **but the use of unique numbering and authentication is required.**

Note:

- If radio frequency identification (RFID) chips are used by manufacturers, the ICAO Aviation Security and Facilitation Policy Section should be contacted to ensure harmonization and consistency with other machine-readable applications.
- The ***back face of STEBs may feature*** branding or logos of individual airports or retailers. If the name of the airport needs to be displayed, it should appear on STEBs borders or inside a separate box within the red box.
- If the name of the distributor needs to be displayed, it should appear on STEBs borders or beside the State or manufacturer box.
- It is important to ensure that STEBs are distributed only to authentic parties.
- Manufacturers and distributors recognized as known suppliers of STEBs should request official confirmation that their potential customer is a legitimate known supplier of LAGs recognized by the appropriate authorities of the State concerned.
- For illustrative purposes, examples of STEB layouts are presented in Figure A22-1. As bag handles are not mandatory, the State or manufacturer box and the security box may be located inside the red box.



Figure A22-1. Examples of **STEB** layouts