



Inspection Report

DELTA AIR LINES INC
1010 Delta Boulevard
ATG 109 - OC1, 4TH FLOOR
Atlanta, GA 30354

Customer ID: **828**
Certificate: **57-T-0001**
Site: BOS
DELTA AIR LINES INC BOS

Type: FOCUSED INSPECTION
Date: 25-FEB-2025

3.40

Terminal facilities.

A crate of two guinea pigs, *Cavia porcellus*, air waybill number 151034, was stacked under a crate of upside down inanimate cargo at the Delta shipping counter. Inanimate cargo may present a hazard to the health and welfare of the live animals. The upside down crate may present a physical hazard if it leaks and contaminates the shipping crate, and/or emits gases or smells that disturb the live animals. The carrier must ensure that live cargo and inanimate cargo are not intermixed.

3.161(g) Critical

Consignments to carriers and intermediate handlers.

Delta shipped an unweaned 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, without transport instructions from the attending veterinarian signed within 10 days of shipment. Per the determination of age by the emergency veterinarian, and a conversation with the shipper, the bird is unweaned and dependent upon caregivers for food and water. The bird is also unfledged, meaning that it lacks adult feathers for thermoregulation and flight. The bird arrived in Boston unresponsive and dehydrated, in hypoglycemic and hypothermic shock. The carrier must ensure that they do not accept unweaned birds for transport without veterinary instructions signed within 10 days of shipment.

3.162(a)(4)

Primary enclosures used to transport live birds.

Delta shipped a juvenile unweaned 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, for transport in commerce in an enclosure that could not be opened quickly in case of an emergency. The bird was received unconscious and unresponsive, and taken to a veterinary clinic, where the staff had to find a screwdriver in a multitool to remove the bird from the enclosure, and unscrew the top, which took over a minute and delayed the provision of cardiopulmonary resuscitation measures. The shipper must ensure that bird enclosures can be opened quickly in the event of an emergency.

3.162(a)(6)

Primary enclosures used to transport live birds.

Prepared By: SARA TOBIAS
USDA, APHIS, Animal Care
Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICER

Date:
03-MAR-2025

Received by Title: Facility Representative

Date:
03-MAR-2025



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Delta shipped an unweaned 6-8 week old juvenile military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, in a crate that lacked markings on top and arrows to indicate the correct upright position of the primary enclosure. The required markings ensure that the crate containing the fragile bird is appropriately handled during shipping, lack of which could lead to injury and even death. The shipper must ensure appropriate markers are on the bird enclosure.

3.162(a)(8)

Primary enclosures used to transport live birds.

Delta shipped an unweaned 6-8 week old juvenile military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, an animal unable to appropriately maintain position during motion in transport due to age, and easily stressed, in a crate that lacked padding on the top and sides. The padding is required to ensure that harm to the stress prone bird is minimized. The carrier must ensure the enclosure is appropriately padded when shipping a fractious or stress prone bird.

3.162(b)(1)

Primary enclosures used to transport live birds.

Delta shipped a juvenile unweaned 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, in a crate that was not permanently affixed to the conveyance, and had ventilation only on one side. Ventilation openings must be present on at least 16% of two sides, or 8% of all four walls to ensure proper ventilation is provided to the bird during travel. Lack of ventilation may injure or kill a bird. This bird was received unconscious and unresponsive, and lack of appropriate ventilation may have contributed to the animal's condition. The shipper must ensure that only crates with appropriate ventilation are used during travel.

3.162(b)(2)

Primary enclosures used to transport live birds.

Delta shipped a juvenile unweaned 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, in a crate lacking required 0.75 inch rims on all exterior walls with ventilation openings. The rims provided were handholds on two side walls without any ventilation openings, and the ventilation opening itself, while at an angle, had no protective rim ensuring air circulation was adequate to provide air to the bird. The bird was received in critical condition in Boston. The carrier must ensure that there are rims to protect ventilatory openings on bird enclosures.

3.164(f) Critical

Food and water requirements.

Delta shipped a juvenile unweaned 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, without written instructions for food and water of the bird attached to the primary enclosure. Per the emergency veterinarian, and the shipper, the bird was a juvenile still dependent upon parents or caregivers for feed and water and was received unconscious and unresponsive, presumed dead on arrival, and the emergency veterinarian determined that hypoglycemia and dehydration contributed to the critical condition of the bird. The carrier must ensure that instructions for feeding and watering birds are attached to shipment crates.

3.168(b) Critical

Climatic and environmental conditions during transportation

Prepared By: SARA TOBIAS

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Inspection Report

Delta shipped a juvenile unweaned and unfledged 6-8 week old military macaw, *Ara militaris*, airway bill number 006-67785233, that was unable to maintain its own constant body temperature at ambient temperatures due to age and lack of adult feathers, in a carrier that did not provide for temperature regulation. Birds unable to regulate their own body temperatures shipped without a brooder or other temperature regulating unit may become hypothermic and die. This bird was received unconscious, unresponsive, and in critical condition. When the bird was transported to the emergency veterinarian, it was at first presumed dead, and hypothermia, hypoglycemia and dehydration was diagnosed and treated. The carrier must not transport birds unable to regulate their own body temperatures without a method for assisting the bird to maintain a constant body temperature during transport.

This inspection and exit interview were conducted with the facility representative.

Prepared By: SARA TOBIAS
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Title: VETERINARY MEDICAL
OFFICER

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Species Inspected

Cust No	Cert No	Site	Site Name	Inspection
828	57-T-0001	BOS	DELTA AIR LINES INC BOS	25-FEB-2025

Count	Scientific Name	Common Name
000001	<i>Ara militaris</i>	MILITARY MACAW
000002	<i>Cavia porcellus</i>	DOMESTIC GUINEA PIG
000003	Total	