



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Department of Toxic Substances Control

NEWS RELEASE

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Maureen F. Gorsen, Director

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL FINES UNITED AIRLINES \$85,000 FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) announced it entered into an \$85,000 consent order with United Airlines for hazardous waste violations at the airline's San Francisco International Airport Maintenance Operations Center. That facility consists of 16 major buildings, nine associated hangars and docks, and areas used to store and treat hazardous waste, at which DTSC noted several violations during a routine inspection in October 2006.

"It is essential that the airline industry abides by California's hazardous waste laws and regulations in order to protect public health and the environment," DTSC Director Maureen Gorsen said. "San Francisco International Airport is a vital transportation hub, and all airlines there are responsible for ensuring they manage hazardous waste in accordance with the law."

Among the violations DTSC inspectors found were that United Airlines workers at the airport stored hazardous waste for longer than the 90 days without having a hazardous waste facility permit. The company failed to fully inspect the structural integrity of several major tanks containing hazardous waste at the airport maintenance center. They also failed to label hazardous waste storage tanks and containers properly.

Under terms of the order, United Airlines will pay a total of \$85,000, of which \$81,300 is a penalty and \$3,700 is reimbursement of administrative costs incurred by DTSC.

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FOR GENERAL INQUIRIES: Contact the Department of Toxic Substances Control by phone at (800) 728-6942 or visit <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov>". To report illegal handling, discharge, or disposal of hazardous waste, call the Waste Alert Hotline at (800) 698-6942.

The mission of the Department of Toxic Substances Control is to provide the highest level of safety, and to protect public health and the environment from toxic harm.