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August 2004

Statutory Instrument 2002 No. 263

The Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of the Montreal Convention 1999) Order 2002

The Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of the Montreal Convention 1999) Order 2002 came into force in June 2004. The Order implements the Montreal Convention which is an international agreement which sets out the airlines liabilities to passengers with respect to injury, flight delays and lost or damaged baggage.

The Montreal Convention revises the Warsaw Convention. The main changes to benefits are:

A liability limit in relation to damage caused by delay to passengers of 4150 SDRs

A liability limit in relation to the destruction, loss, damage or delay of baggage of 1000 SDRs

The limits can fluctuate because they are based on “special drawing rights” – an artificial currency used to peg exchange rates. In June 2004, for example, 1000 SDRs were worth £803.

The full text of the Carriage by Air Acts (Implementation of the Montreal Convention 1999) Order 2002 can be downloaded from:

www.legislation.hms0.gov.uk/si/si2002/20020263.htm