

## **Federal Aviation Administration**

### **Hazardous Materials Voluntary Disclosure Reporting Program**

The FAA's Hazardous Materials Voluntary Disclosure Reporting (VDR) program allows air carriers to disclose violations of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) under an FAA voluntary program. This program applies to U.S. air carriers certificated under 14 CFR part 119 and to foreign air carriers operating in the U.S. that are issued operations specifications under 14 CFR part 129.

The historical approach to making aviation safety improvements is based on reviewing data obtained after an aviation accident or incident. This reactive approach has transitioned into a more proactive strategy where the FAA is using the data it obtains through surveillance and design reviews of an air carrier's overall operations. Aviation safety improvements can also be obtained when the air carrier shares information about its non-compliance openly with the FAA. The FAA utilizes a number of such programs. The Hazardous Materials VDR program allows air carriers to submit information disclosing their own non-compliance with the HMR without incurring civil penalties if the appropriate process is followed.

The Hazardous Materials VDR program requirements are contained in [Advisory Circular 121-37](#). Air carriers may utilize the hazardous materials VDR program to disclose noncompliance with regulations contained in 49 CFR part 175. The VDR program provides incentives for an air carrier to identify, report, and correct instances of regulatory noncompliance. The program provides important safety information to the FAA and allows the agency to oversee and participate in the root-cause analysis of the events leading to the violations. The FAA reviews, approves, and oversees the air carrier's corrective actions and conducts follow-up surveillance. When the program criteria are met, the FAA accepts the voluntary disclosure, foregoes legal enforcement action, and protects the public release of qualifying disclosures and corrective actions.

The air carrier's representative may contact the appropriate FAA Hazardous Materials Division Manager at the phone number / email address by linking to our [Hazardous Materials POC](#) page.

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