

Dangerous Goods Best Practice-008

Best Practice for the Acceptance of Cargo Consignment containing Lithium Cell / Battery by Airlines in Hong Kong

Background

Following the latest changes on Lithium Cells / Batteries shipment as per 51st edition of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations, to facilitate industrial operations, the Dangerous Goods Best Practice 008 will replace Best Practice 007 and with effect from 01 January 2010 as below:

Important Note for All Sections:

- All Lithium Cells / Batteries shipment must have completed UN38.3 test.
- All relevant supporting documents (i.e. MSDS or UN38.3 test report) must be ready before cargo acceptance by shippers / forwarders, and individual carrier may in its sole discretion to request any supporting document.

Part 1 - Cells / Batteries shipped as 'Not Restricted' Cargo

IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) highlights as below:

A. Lithium-ion Cells / Batteries shipped as 'Not Restricted' Cargo

1. Must comply with “**Section II**” of PI965 – PI967 accordingly.
2. For cells, the Watt-hour rating should not be more than 20Wh.
3. For batteries, the Watt-hour rating should not be more than 100Wh.

B. Lithium Metal Cells / Batteries shipped as 'Not Restricted' Cargo

1. Must comply with “**Section II**” of PI968 – PI970 accordingly.
2. For cells, the lithium content should not be more than 1 g; while for batteries, the aggregate lithium content should not be more than 2 g.

C. Common Practice - Documentation Requirements:

Step 1) Information on MAWB in “Additional Information” Column

1. The type of cell or battery:
 - Lithium ion cells / Lithium ion batteries / Lithium metal cells / Lithium metal batteries
2. The text: “Not Restricted”
3. The relevant Packing Instruction: “PI965 / PI966 / PI967 / PI968 / PI969 / PI970”

Step 2) Information on a Separate Document

Must sign by the shipper (name and title of the shipper must be provided) with company stamp indicating information below:

1. The type of cell or battery:
 - Lithium ion cells / Lithium ion batteries / Lithium metal cells / Lithium metal batteries
2. Indicate message: “Handle with care. Flammability hazard exists if the package is damaged”
3. Indicate which Special Procedures should be followed in the event the package is damaged, to include inspection and repacking if necessary.
4. Provide the Telephone Number for additional information.
5. Indicate which Packing Instruction has the shipment comply with.
e.g. “Comply with **Section II** of PI965” or “Comply with **Section II** of PI966”, etc
6. Indicate the consignment does not contain any recalled and/or defective batteries.

** Should the shipment under the same shipper involves more than one Packing Instruction (PI), single declaration is acceptable provide that the shipper clearly lists out items with relevant PI to ensure a cross reference is available.

D. Please Observe:

- Each package must be labeled with a lithium battery handling label.
- Individual carrier requirements.
- States Variations.

E. Exceptional Handling

For package contains less than 4 cells or less than 2 batteries installed in equipment under **Section II** of **PI967 / PI970**:

1. The package DOES NOT require affixing any Lithium Battery Labels.
2. Part 1 (C) – Step 2 – “Information on a Separate Document” does not apply here.
3. Instead, shipper / forwarder only requires to **declare on MAWB or a separate document** the following:
 - **Package containing 4 cells or less; or**
 - **Package containing 2 batteries or less**

Part 2 - Cells / Batteries shipped as Dangerous Goods, Class 9

IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) highlights as below:

A. Lithium-ion Cells / Batteries shipped as Class 9

1. Must comply with **Section I** of PI965 – PI967 accordingly.

B. Lithium Metal Cells / Batteries shipped as Class 9

1. Must comply with **Section I** of PI968 – PI970 accordingly.
2. Transport as **PI970 – “contained in equipment” - :**
 - The quantity of lithium metal contained in piece of equipment must not exceed 12 g per cell and 500 g per battery.
3. Under following conditions:
 - (I) Transport with “**only cells / batteries**” on Passenger Aircraft; or;
 - (II) Transport as “**packed with equipment**” on Passenger AircraftNeed to apply:
 - Must be packed in either a rigid metal intermediate or a metal outer packaging; and
 - Cells and batteries must be surrounded by cushioning material that is non-combustible and non-conductive.

C. Common Practice - Documentation requirement:

1. Valid and duly completed Shipper’s Declaration for Dangerous Goods form.

D. Please observe:

- Individual carrier requirements.
- States Variations.

Part 3 – Correct ways for shippers to complete the “Shipper Letter of Instruction – SLI”

Shippers should clearly indicate below information on SLI when passing to Forwarders:

1. The type of cell or battery:
 - Lithium ion cells / Lithium ion batteries / Lithium metal cells / Lithium metal batteries
2. The relevant Packing Instruction: “PI965 / PI966 / PI967 / PI968 / PI969 / PI970”
3. Section of Packing Instruction referring: “Section I / Section II”

– END –

Issued by:

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