



## **DOT Guidance for the Safe Transportation of Recalled Lithium Batteries**

The Department of Transportation recommends that any person offering for transportation or transporting a recalled lithium battery take the following precautions to assure that the batteries are handled and transported safely:

### **RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR CONSUMERS RETURNING RECALLED BATTERIES**

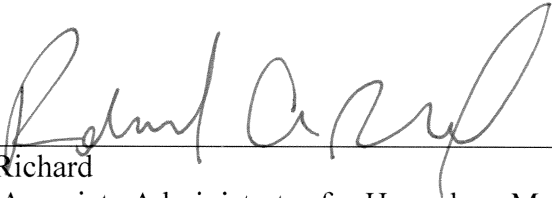
- Upon learning that a battery is part of a recall, stop using the recalled battery immediately and contact the manufacturer. Do not attempt to recharge it.
- If the manufacturer recommends discharging the battery, follow the instructions to safely discharge the battery.
- Ship recalled batteries only in the packaging provided by the manufacturer in association with the recall.
- Assemble and close the packaging in accordance with the recall instructions you receive from the manufacturer.
- When shipping multiple recalled batteries to the manufacturer, individually package each battery. Never consolidate multiple batteries into a single package.
- Only ship recalled batteries by ground transportation (i.e., do not use express mail, overnight mail, or air-mail).
- Do not pack a recalled battery in checked or carry-on baggage if traveling by plane.

### **RECOMMENDED PRACTICES FOR MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF RECALLED BATTERIES**

- Recalled batteries should not be transported by aircraft (passenger or cargo).
- Recalled batteries should always be individually packaged when shipped by the consumer.
- Consolidated shipments of recalled batteries should remain in their individual packagings until they reach the recycle or disposal facility.

- If the manufacturer recommends discharge of the battery is necessary for safe transportation, simple and clear instructions to the consumer should be provided outlining acceptable means to discharge the battery.
- Prior to public announcement of a recall, PHMSA should be consulted regarding the following information:
  - Why are the batteries being recalled?
  - How many batteries are being recalled?
  - How will they be packaged and identified for transportation?
  - Which carriers will be involved in the transportation of the recalled batteries?
  - Are there any additional risks in transporting the recalled batteries?
- If a recalled battery is determined by the manufacturer to be unsafe for transportation (see 49 CFR § 173.21), the manufacturer must obtain an approval from the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, prior to initiating a recall. The Office of Hazardous Materials Special Permits and Approvals can be reached by telephone at (202) 366-4535.

For further information, contact PHMSA's Hazardous Materials Information Center at 1-(800) 467-4922.

  
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