

Subject: US Postal Service Final Rule
Date: October 6, 2007
Ref: 278-07

On October 5, 2007 the US Postal Service issued its long awaited final rule on the transport of lithium and lithium ion batteries in response to their proposed rule of April 25, 2007. This final rule is generally harmonized with the US Department of Transportation (DOT) but is slightly more restrictive. These requirements have been incorporated in to the Domestic Mail Manual and are effective October 5, 2007.

General Requirements:

Lithium Batteries

- 1) Cells must not exceed 1.0 grams per cell. Batteries must not exceed 2.0 grams per battery.
- 2) Cells and batteries must meet the requirements of each applicable test in the UN Manual of Test and Criteria, Part III, Subsection 38.3.
- 3) Cells and batteries must be in firmly sealed packages separated and cushioned to prevent short circuit, movement or damage.
- 4) All packages must have both a delivery and return address.
- 5) Cells and batteries must be in original sealed packaging.
- 6) Cells and batteries are forbidden aboard passenger aircraft.
- 7) The package must be marked on the address side "Surface Mail Only" and "Primary Lithium Batteries – Forbidden for Transportation Aboard Passenger Aircraft."
- 8) The package must not exceed 5 pounds.

Lithium Batteries packed with or contained in equipment

- 1) By surface or air the package must not contain more batteries than are needed to operate the equipment.
- 2) Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuits and damage.
- 3) The equipment must be equipped with an effective means to prevent accidental activation.
- 4) The package must be marked on the address side "Package contains primary lithium batteries".
- 5) The package must not exceed 11 pounds.

Lithium ion Batteries

- 1) Cells must not exceed 1.5 grams of ELC per cell. Each battery must not exceed 8.0 grams of ELC per battery.
- 2) Cells and batteries must meet the requirements of each applicable test in the UN Manual of Test and Criteria, Part III, Subsection 38.3.
- 3) Cells and batteries must be in firmly sealed packages separated and cushioned to prevent short circuit, movement or damage.
- 4) Except for batteries installed in equipment, they must be in strong outer packaging.
- 5) All outer packaging must contain a complete delivery and return address.

- 6) Via surface or air transportation, when cells or batteries are mailed or when properly packed with or installed in equipment, they must be protected from short circuit and damage and the device must be equipped with an effective means to prevent accidental activation
- 7) The outside of the package must be marked on the address side “Package Contains Lithium –Ion Batteries (No lithium metal)
- 8) The mail piece must not contain more than three (3) batteries.

Damaged or recalled batteries are prohibited from mailing unless approved by the manager, Mailing Standards.

Summary Chart

Lithium	<u>Surface</u>	<u>Air</u>	Mail Piece <u>Weight Limit</u>	International <u>APO/FPO</u>
Battery	Yes	Prohibited	5 lbs	Prohibited
Packed With	Yes	Yes	11 lbs	Yes
Contained In	Yes	Yes	11 lbs	Yes

Lithium Ion	<u>Surface</u>	<u>Air</u>	Mail Piece <u>Battery Limit</u>	International <u>APO/FPO</u>
Battery	Yes	Yes	3 batteries maximum	Yes
Packed With	Yes	Yes	3 batteries maximum	Yes
Contained In	Yes	Yes	3 batteries maximum	Yes

Please circulate this information as necessary. If any of your customers have

Listed: Matt Sora, Joji Nishimura, Bill Hedden, Bob Rauh, Jamie Benson, Scotty Scott, Sadakuni-san, Koby Kobayashi, Norm Yokoyama, Carlos Dasilva, Marian Dismuke