



LITHIUM BATTERIES

Packaging, transport and acceptance criteria.

Lithium Batteries are highly flammable and potentially explosive.

There are comprehensive UN packing requirements covering the packing of lithium batteries for transport. However, lithium batteries are also found in mixed waste batteries, and there are also guidelines for how these should be packed and carried. For mixed batteries containing Lithium, batteries should be packed in a sealed plastic liner within a drum or box. The Container should be sealed to prevent undue movement. However, if lithium batteries form a significant proportion of the load, then the full requirements of the UN packing requirements MUST be followed. These packing requirements currently state that lithium batteries must be packed in collection containers of no more than 30kg, and that an inert fill must be used to prevent movement of the batteries during transport.

G & P drivers are instructed not to load batteries where there is a predominance of lithium types in the following circumstances:



Primary Lithium Batteries

1. If there are visible trailing terminal wires from packs that have either bare ends or plastic connectors.

All bare wires must be securely covered and made safe. Plastic connectors are not accepted as being safe as they can easily get detached leaving bare wire ends. All trailing terminal wires must securely taped with suitable insulating tape or ideally cut off where they leave the casing in such a way that there is no possibility that the cut ends will touch each other.

2. If the lithium batteries are not packed in accordance with UN packing requirements – i.e. in containers of less than 30kg, and with inert fill.

Waste lithium batteries can be extremely dangerous, particularly during transport. We have a responsibility to our staff to minimise hazards such as fire or explosion and would recommend that all customers generating or storing waste primary lithium batteries take similar precautions.



Explosion of just 8kg of primary lithium batteries - caused by trailing terminal bare wires shorting out.

If you would like further guidance, please call our sales department on **0121 568 3200**. Thank you for your co-operation.