

Transporting Lithium batteries

Based on the United Nations recommendation, regulations have been placed on the transportation of lithium metal batteries and lithium ion batteries by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Packing and transportation are formally regulated according to the amount of lithium contained in lithium batteries. Transportation of lithium batteries must conform to these regulations.

Lithium batteries that have part numbers beginning with BR, CR, ML, NBL and/or VL are classified as "Lithium metal batteries (UN3090 or UN3091) *1" Since Panasonic Lithium metal batteries (except BR-C *2) meet the below 3 criteria, they can be treated as exempt from UN3090 or 3091 and shipped as non-dangerous goods.

1. for cells, the lithium content is not more than 1g
2. for batteries, the aggregate lithium content is not more than 2g
3. each cell or battery is of the type proven to meet requirements of each test in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, sub-section 38.3

[Transporting condition] ★Actual content of packaging label and shipping documents varies among Shipping companies. Make sure to confirm in advance with your shipping company.

For marine or air shipment, except for packages containing no more than 4 cells installed in equipment or no more than 2 batteries installed in equipment, each package shall meet the following:

1. Each consignment shall be accompanied with a document including the following:
 - (i) the package contains lithium metal cells or batteries;
 - (ii) the package shall be handled with care and that a flammability hazard exists if the package is damaged;
 - (iii) special procedures should be followed in the event the package is damaged, to include inspection and repacking if necessary; and
 - (iv) a telephone number for additional information.
2. Each package shall be marked with the previous (i) to (iv). For air shipment, each package shall be labeled with a lithium battery handling label provided by IATA.
3. Except when lithium batteries are installed in equipment, each package shall be capable of withstanding a 1.2 m drop test in any orientation without damage to cells or batteries contained therein, without shifting of the contents so as to allow battery to battery (or cell to cell) contact and without release of contents
4. Except when lithium batteries are installed in or packed with equipment, packages shall not exceed 30 kg gross mass for marine shipment or 2.5 kg gross mass for air shipment.
(Except when lithium batteries are installed in or packed with equipment)
(Air shipment prohibition with passenger plane in the United States.)

*1 The lithium batteries contained in equipment or packed with equipment are classify into UN3091.

*2 The lithium content of the cylindrical BR-C lithium battery exceeds 1g, and must be shipped as dangerous goods for both air and sea transport.

Security Export Control

"Security export control" entails observing the legislation provided to maintain international peace and safety by preventing the proliferation of weapons of massive destructions (nuclear weapons, chemical warfare weapons, biological weapons and missiles) and the excessive buildup of conventional weapons. COCOM, the committee that imposed controls on exports to the Communist bloc, was disbanded on March 31, 1994. Later, as part of a new export control regime, Russia and Eastern European countries joined with the previously affiliated nations of COCOM (Japan, America and Europe) and established the Wassenaar Arrangement for dual-use goods & technologies related to conventional weapons.

According to the Export Trade Control Order revised by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry in May 2008, batteries listed in this catalog are classified as "batteries" not "cells", and will therefore not be controlled by (7) in annex Table1 to the Order.

The above notwithstanding, these batteries may be subject to the regulations depending on their ultimate destination, application and other conditions. When a certificate of classification is required for exportation, etc. or if you have any queries, contact a Panasonic sales representative.