

**USTRANSCOM Personal Property Advisory #23-0044; Rescinds USTC PP Advisory #22-0069A, Dated 14 July 2022**

**Date:** 9 March 2023

**From:** USTRANSCOM Defense Personal Property Management Office (DPMO), Scott AFB, IL 62225

**To:** All Military Service Headquarters Representatives, Worldwide Personal Property Shipping Offices (PPSOs), and Department of Defense (DoD) Approved Transportation Service Providers (TSPs)

**Subject:** Lithium Batteries in Personal Property Shipments

1. This advisory serves as notification of the decision by the DoD and requirements for PPSOs and TSPs for the movement of lithium batteries when included as part of a customer's personal property shipment.
2. The policies on shipment of lithium batteries are effective **15 May 2023**.
3. Although lithium batteries should not have been shipped or stored in personal property prior to the effective date of 15 May 2023, the DoD recognizes customers and/or TSPs could have unknowingly included them as part of their personal property shipment and/or storage. Lithium batteries that are currently in transit or may have previously been placed in storage are not affected by this advisory and customer's lithium battery items, in NTS, will not be subject to removal.
4. Counselors must brief customers that the TSP will handle lithium batteries or items containing lithium batteries at limited levels. However, lithium batteries of all types and sizes are **prohibited** from Non-Temporary Storage (NTS). While NTS is prohibited, storage in-transit is allowed; however, if any shipment is rerouted to or converted to NTS the customer may have to provide disposition instructions to remove the item(s) from their shipment.
5. Counselors should also advise customers that the requirements below for lithium batteries pertain to shipping and/or storing as a personally procured move. Customers **will not** be reimbursed for shipping lithium batteries over the allowable watt-hours below in Paragraph 7.
6. Additionally, counselors should brief customers on the two types of lithium batteries (Lithium Metal and Lithium Ion).
  - 6.1. Lithium metal batteries are commonly found in cameras, watches, remote controls, handheld games, and smoke detectors. Lithium metal batteries are single use and NOT rechargeable and come in various forms including cylindrical, button cells, or coin cells. Always check items for the type of batteries installed. They will commonly identify lithium battery on the item.
  - 6.2. Lithium-ion batteries are commonly found in cellphones, power tools, digital cameras, laptops, children's toys, electric cigarettes, robot vacuums, small and large appliances,

tablets, e-readers, lawn care equipment, and electric bikes. (e-bikes). Lithium-ion batteries are rechargeable and intended for multiple use. Some lithium-ion batteries are internal to a product and not easily removable, while others may be. Check manufacturer's instructions for battery removal, if applicable.

7. The TSP is required to properly package, label, and certify (if required) lithium-ion cells rated at 100 watt-hours or less (20 watt-hours or less for single cell) and lithium metal batteries containing two (2) grams or less of lithium content (one (1) gram or less for single cells).
8. To assist customers in identifying lithium batteries in their household customers should be briefed that for lithium-ion batteries, the watt-hour rating is sometimes printed on the battery; or an Internet search of the make and model of the item containing the battery may provide the size of the battery. If not, take the volts (V) and multiply by ampere-hours (Ah) to determine watt-hours. If the battery has milliampere, often written as mAh, divide the mAh by 1000. For example, a lithium-ion battery with 3500 mAh would be equal to 3.5 Ah. For lithium metal, take the ampere-hours and multiply by .3 to get the lithium content.
9. Customer must be briefed that e-bikes, scooters, and large lawn equipment (e.g., riding lawnmowers) powered by lithium-ion batteries are some common items that may be prohibited in personal property shipments given they have unique shipping requirements and are often larger than the 100-watt-hour size limitation.
10. DPMO is coordinating updates to Defense Transportation Regulation and preparing a customer fact sheet to align with and assist in defining the requirements above.
11. Questions about this advisory may be sent to [transcom.scott.tcj9.mbx.ox@mail.mil](mailto:transcom.scott.tcj9.mbx.ox@mail.mil).
12. This message was approved for release by the Deputy Director for Operations, Defense Personal Property Management Office, TCJ9-O.