Transport of Lithium Batteries in Carry-on and Checked Luggage

Presented to: Systems working group meeting

By: Harry Webster, FAA Fire Safety Team

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Hazardous Materials: Transportation of Lithium Batteries; Final Rule

- Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
 Safety Administration
- 49 CFR Parts 171, 172, 173 and 175
- [Docket Nos. PHMSA-02-11989 (HM-224C)
- and PHMSA-04-19886 (HM-224E)]
- Effective Date: January 1, 2008

Rule Provisions

- US DOT Hazmat Safety Rule to Place Limits on Lithium Batteries Carried by Passengers Aboard Aircraft Effective January 1, 2008
- Designed to reduce the risk of lithium battery fires.
- Carry-on luggage
- Checked baggage

Checked Baggage

- Loose lithium batteries will no longer be allowed in checked luggage
- Lithium batteries that are installed in electronic devices will be allowed, providing:
 - Secure the device from activation by locking the activation switch in the "off" position
 - Place the device in a protective case

Carry-On Luggage

- Most consumer electronics containing lithium batteries, including cell phones, cameras and notebook computers are allowed
- Unlimited spare batteries, if under 100 watthours, are permitted, providing:
 - Pack in original retail packaging, or
 - Insulate contacts of loose batteries with tape, and
 - Place each battery in a separate zip-lock plastic bag or container

Carry-On Luggage

- Large lithium batteries, over 100 watt-hour, but under 300 watt-hour capacities
 - Limit two per passenger
 - Insulate terminals with tape
 - Pack in original retail packaging, or
 - Place in zip-lock plastic bag
- Large lithium batteries over 300 watt-hour capacity are prohibited in either checked luggage or carry-on luggage

Additional Information for the Traveling Public

- www.SafeTravel.dot.gov
 - Information regarding packing and transport of lithium batteries and electronic equipment
 - Definitions
 - Tips, and
 - How To's