



Nickel Metal Hydride Batteries

Guidance on the air transport of Batteries, nickel-metal hydride UN3496

IATA has been contacted by various parties experiencing difficulties shipping and accepting Batteries, nickel metal hydride (UN 3496) and equipment containing them by air transport. The text in the 57th edition of the DGR has been adapted to make the shipping requirements clearer through Special Provision A199.

BACKGROUND:

UN 3496 was brought into the 55th edition of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) to ensure the list of dangerous goods is "complete" and generally aligned with the UN Model Regulations. This UN Number is only used in sea transport.

TRANSPORT BY AIR:

These batteries may be shipped by air transport. The batteries are considered not restricted once the shipper complies with Special Provision A199. This may involve the freight forwarder correctly indicating the required text on the air waybill, when an air waybill is used. The UN Number "UN 3496" is not a UN Number used in air transport and should not be used in association with the description of the goods.

We understand there is some confusion with the mention of "forbidden" against the limited quantity entry for UN 3496, but the special provision makes clear that the entry is only used in sea transport.

SPECIAL PROVISION A199

The UN number UN 3496 is only applicable in sea transport. Nickel-metal hydride batteries or nickel-metal hydride battery-powered devices, equipment or vehicles having the potential of a dangerous evolution of heat are not subject to these Regulations provided they are prepared for transport so as to prevent:

- (a) a short circuit (e.g. in the case of batteries, by the effective insulation of exposed terminals; or, in the case of equipment, by disconnection of the battery and protection of exposed terminals); and*
- (b) unintentional activation.*

The words "Not Restricted" and the Special Provision number must be included in the description of the substance on the Air Waybill as required by 8.2.6, when an Air Waybill is issued.

You can contact the IATA Dangerous Goods Support team if you have questions or concerns that may not have been addressed in this document at: dangood@iata.org.

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This product is a consumer product which is used in a hermetically sealed state. So, it is not an object of the SDS system. This document is provided to customers as reference information for the safe handling of the product. The information and recommendations set forth are made in good faith and are believed to be accurate at the date of preparation. Panasonic Corporation makes no warranty expressed or implied.

PRODUCT SAFETY DATA SHEET

1. Chemical product and company identification

Name of Product : Nickel-Metal Hydride Battery
 (Model name) * * * * *
 Name of Company : Panasonic Energy (Wuxi) Co.,Ltd.
 Address : No.40 Changjiang Road, Xinwu District, Wuxi City, Jiangsu Province, China 214028
 Department : Product Technology Dept.
 Tel : (86)510-85212221
 Reference No. : PNH-PSDS-16E1

2. Hazards identification

GHS Classification : Not applicable
 Hazard : There is the risk of abnormal heat generation and explosion if batteries are crushed, caused external short circuits, heated above 100 degree C and disposed in fire.
 Toxicity : When the leaked liquid adheres to the skin, it may cause the damage of the skin. When it is gotten in eye, it may cause the damage of eye such as losing sight.

3. Composition/information of ingredients

Common Chemical name	CAS number	Concentration/ Percentage Range
Nickel Hydroxide	12054-48-7	15-25%
Cobalt Hydroxide	21041-93-0	1-5%
Hydrogen absorbing alloy	7440-02-0(Ni) 7440-48-4(Co) 7439-96-5(Mn) 7429-90-5(Al)	} 20-35%
Nickel	7440-02-0	3-10%
Iron	7439-89-6	10-25%
Potassium Hydroxide	1310-58-3	} 0-15%
Sodium Hydroxide	1310-73-2	
Lithium Hydroxide	1310-65-2	

4. First aid measures (in case of electrolyte leakage from the battery)

- Skin contact : Wash the contact skin area off immediately with plenty of clean water such as tap water using a mild soap, otherwise it might cause sore on the skin.
Get medical attention if irritation develops or persists.
- Eye contact : Flush the eyes with plenty of clean water such as tap water for more than 15 minutes without rubbing and immediately take a medical treatment.
- Inhalation : If appropriate procedures are not taken, it may cause a loss of sight.
Move the exposed person to fresh air area immediately.
And take a medical treatment immediately.

5. Fire fighting measures

1. Suitable fire extinguishing media are dry sand and chemical powder fire extinguisher.
2. When in firefighting, the air respiratory protection should be used because acrid or harmful gas might be generated when fire is extinguished.
3. Remove combustibles at once from a firefighting area.
4. Remove the batteries to safe area at once from firefighting place.

6. Accidental release measures (in case of electrolyte leakage from the battery)

- Personal precautions : Wear proper protective equipment.
And Protective Equipment
- Environmental Precautions : Prevent spills form entering sewers, watercourses.
Spill Clean-Up Procedures : Collect material to minimize dust generation; use wet mop, damp sponge. Place collected material into a suitable container for disposal.

7. Handling and storage

Handling

- Technical Measures : Not necessary under normal use.
- Precaution : The terminals of the battery should be protected in the packing form to be able to prevent them from external short circuit.
They are packed by the material with enough strength to prevent them from destroyed by vibrates, impact, fall and accumulation, etc. while transporting them.

Storage

- Storage Condition : Keep batteries out of water and wet when in storage and transported.
Keep batteries out of fire and avoid the high temperature atmosphere when in storage and transported.
An example of the high temperature: The high temperature storage like in the car exposed to blazing sun should be avoided.
- Safe Packaging Materials : Carton boxes, wooden boxes.

8. Exposure controls and personal protection

Acceptable concentration : Not necessary under normal use.
Facilities : Nothing in particular.

Protective Equipments (in case of electrolyte leakage from the battery)

Respiratory Protection : Safety mask.
Hand Protection : Safety gloves.
Eye Protection : Safety glasses designed to protect against liquid splashes
Skin and Body Protection : To prevent any contact, wear impervious clothing such as boots or whole body suits as appropriate.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Physical Style

Appearance : The nickel hydrogen battery is stored in the plastic resin case or tube.
Color : Depend on the design.
Odor : No odor
Voltage : The voltage value depends on the number of built-in batteries used in battery pack.

10. Stability and reactivity

Reactivity : Stable under normal use.
Chemical Stability : Stable under normal use.
Conditions to be avoided : External Short, crushed and heated or disposed in fire cause abnormal heat generation, leakage or explosion.
Hazardous decomposition products : Acidic or harmful fume is emitted during fire

11. Toxicological information

There is no data available on the product itself.

12. Ecological information

Persistence/degradability

In case of the worn out battery was disposed in land, the battery case may be corroded, and leak electrolyte. But, we have no ecological information.

Heavy metal quantity in a cell

Mercury (Hg), Cadmium (Cd) and Lead (Pb) are not used in cell.

13. Disposal considerations

When the battery is worn out, dispose of it under the regulations of each local government or the law issued by relating government.

14. Transport information

- IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations 57th Edition (2016)
- ICAO Technical Instructions for the safe transport of dangerous goods by air
- The product is handled as Non-Dangerous Goods based on IATA (A199) for air transportation.
- The product is handled as following based on IMDG Code UN3496 (SP963) for marine transportation. (1) Nickel-metal hydride button cell or nickel-metal hydride cells or batteries packed with or contained in equipment are Non-Dangerous Goods.
- (2) All other nickel-metal hydride cells or batteries shall be securely packed and protected from short circuit. They are Non-Dangerous Goods provided they are loaded in a cargo transport unit in a total quantity of less than 100 kg gross mass.
- (3) When loaded in cargo transport unit in a total quantity of 100 kg gross mass or more, they are Dangerous Goods (Class 9)

Prior to transportation,

1. During the transportation of a large amount of batteries by ship, trailer or railway, do not leave them in the places of high temperatures and do not allow them to be exposed to dew condensation.
2. Avoid transportation with the possibility of the collapse of cargo piles and the packing damage.
3. Protect the terminals of batteries and prevent them from short circuit so as not to cause dangerous heat generation.

15. Regulatory information

Law for Promotion of Effective Utilization of Resources
(JAPAN) Commission Directive 2006/66/EU,
2013/56/EU(EU)

16. Other information

- Handling instructions : This PSDS is provided to customers as reference information in order to handle batteries safely. It is necessary for the customer to take appropriate measures depending on the actual situation such as the individual handling based on this information.
- References : 1.The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals(GHS) ST/SG/AC.10/30 Rev.5, 2013
- 2.Chemical substances information(2015): Japan Advanced Information center of Safety and Health
 - 3.Recommendations on the TRANSPORT OF DANGEROUS GOODS Model Regulations, 18th revised edition.
 - 4.IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations 57th Edition 2016)
 - 5.IMO International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code 2014 Edition