



LET'S KEEP IT GREEN

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Labelmaster's Dangerous Goods Air Instructors' Symposium- was held in Chicago last week and we were there!

There were considerable discussions regarding the best training techniques to be used by air instructors internationally. Most areas of the world were represented and best practices were shared. Of course the main issue on everyone's mind was **Lithium Batteries.**

Last year billions of shipments of lithium batteries were sent on aircraft around the world, not to mention the batteries carried by passengers. Unfortunately there were numerous incidents of lithium batteries catching fire onboard aircraft such as:

- A flashlight onboard a flight from Tokyo to Hong Kong
- A 9 volt battery onboard Jet Blue
- A personal DVD player onboard AA
- A bike kit on board at Honolulu airport
- Dominican Republic recycled batteries that had been shipped with no documentation or markings caught fire at the airport

Ground has not been exempt from fires. In July UPS picked up recycled batteries from a retail outlet and the truck caught fire on the highway. Fortunately no one was injured in any of these accidents.

Retailers that are providing customer service by allowing customers to drop off their old batteries are now reluctant to do so as shipping them has become a major issue.

It appears that most of the major manufactures are complying with the regulations but we still face major challenges. As we become an increasingly global market place a number of knock off batteries are surfacing and the manufactures are not all following the rules and regulations. The other major issue is public awareness, it is of extreme importance that as members of industry we must attempt to educate our colleagues, friends and families of the dangers posed by lithium batteries so that we can be safe in the air and on the ground. Transport Canada has posted information that you can view on their website. [Lithium Batteries](#)

The U.S. Department of Transport (DOT) Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) has created a new guide for shipping lithium batteries [Shipping Batteries Safely by Air: What you need to know](#). It describes the regulations for the classification criteria, packaging requirements, and hazard communication of batteries shipped by air.

There are two types of lithium batteries in the market place today.

Lithium metal batteries are generally primary (non-rechargeable) batteries with different chemistries, comprising many types of electrolytes and cathodes. Lithium metal batteries are normally used for calculators, cameras, power watches, etc. **Lithium-ion batteries** (Li-ion batteries) are a type of secondary (rechargeable) battery commonly used in consumer electronics. Lithium-ion batteries are normally found in mobile telephones, laptop computers, etc.

IATA has also published a document .The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for complying with provisions applicable to the transport by air of lithium batteries that took effect from 1 January 2009 as set out in the DGR. For information visit **IATA Guidance Document: Transport of Lithium Metal and Lithium Ion Batteries, Revised 8/10/09**



Firefighters battle a blaze onboard a UPS cargo plane, Feb. 8, 2006, at Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia. The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating if the lithium batteries that were among the cargo were responsible for the fire. Read the full USA today story. [Batteries can pose fire risk to planes.](#)

Canadian Centennial of Flight-One hundred years ago the first heavier-than-air, powered aircraft took flight over Bras d'Or Lakes in Baddeck, Nova Scotia. The Silver Dart flew for only 800 metres that day, but it changed the face of Canada forever. An industry was born and a new way of life was formed. For more information [100 Years](#)

Transport Canada has published Amendment Z on their website for review. This amendment deals with safety marks. The comment period ends October 5, 2009. For more information visit [Amendment \[Z\]](#)



Let's hear it for the Canadian Trucking Alliance

Canada could be on the road to cleaner air and lower greenhouse gas emissions as a result of a major environmental initiative from the trucking industry. CTA's enviroTruck program will ensure that the trucking industry is as clean and green as possible by tackling both air quality and climate change challenges through the cooperative effort of motor carriers, industry manufacturers, and government.



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