

How to deal with batteries entering the container system





Overview

Extensive measures to safely transport what is an exponentially increasing volume of lithium-ion batteries, in their various states of charge and when also contained in electronic devices are fully examined including, classification and regulation, container packing, landside storage, stowage onboard ships, incident detection and fire suppression, and loss prevention and risk mitigation. Are battery energy storage systems a threat to maritime safety?

12. March 2025 In recent years, demand for the maritime transportation of containerised Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) has grown significantly. However, due to the high safety risks associated with energy storage containers, their transportation poses new challenges to maritime safety.

How to secure a lithium battery container?

Segregation: It is recommended to segregate lithium battery containers from those containing other dangerous goods, particularly flammables, by at least one container bay (6 meters). **Securing:** All cargo must be secured within its container and on the vessel in accordance with the CTU Code and the vessel's Cargo Securing Manual.

How do I identify a lithium battery hazardous goods container?

Except for vehicles driven by lithium batteries (pure electric or hybrid), containers containing lithium battery hazardous goods must have Class 9 hazardous goods labels and UN number markings affixed to each side and each end of the container (for lithium-ion battery energy storage systems, on two opposite sides).

What are the lithium-ion batteries in containers guidelines?

The Lithium-ion Batteries in Containers Guidelines that have just been published seek to prevent the increasing risks that the transport of lithium-ion batteries by sea creates, providing suggestions for identifying such risks and thereby helping to ensure a safer supply chain in the future.



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