

Sodium Ion Batteries by Air Compliance Summary 2026

ADVISORY DOCUMENT for SODIUM ION batteries



AIRSAFE Transport Training
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Reference: IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations 67th Edition 2026

Packing instruction 976 - Sodium ion batteries UN3551 (Page 2)

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Declaration completion example and miscellaneous information (Page 5)

For vehicles powered by sodium ion batteries see UN 3558

Refer to Appendix A of the IATA DGR for definitions of Sodium Ion Batteries



Note: Manufacturers and distributors of cells or batteries must make available the test summary, as specified in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Part III, sub-section 38.3, paragraph 38.3.5.

Commercial shippers of sodium ion batteries are required to be trained under the IATA and Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) legislation.

Disclaimer: The intention of this document is not to replace the IATA or CASA regulations, merely to aid with the interpretation of the applicable Lithium battery requirements. No user should act on such information without reference to applicable Regulations. Every effort has been made to present accurate, current information but **AIRSAFE** shall not be held responsible for loss, damage or legal action due to errors or omissions, misprints or misinterpretation of the contents.

Sodium Ion Batteries (Rechargeable) UN3551 - PI 976	FULLY DECLARED DG FORBIDDEN on Passenger Aircraft
	<i>Note: UN 3551 sodium ion batteries are restricted to no more than 30% state of charge (SoC).</i>
Applicable to: <i>Note: Includes battery packs, modules and rechargers having the purpose of providing a source of power to other equipment.</i>	All sizes of Sodium ion batteries transported under UN 3551 must comply fully with PI 976   Cell (Single unit) Battery (Multiple cells connected)
Packaging and marking requirements	UN Specification packages to PG II Standard (See PI for types) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against short circuit or arching. Inner packages must completely enclose Cell/Battery • UN Number - “UN3551” • Proper shipping name - “Sodium ion batteries” • Shipper and Consignees details in full. • If overpacking do not place with Class 1 (except 1.4S), 2.1, 3, 4.1 or 5.1
Label required	Class 9 + Cargo Aircraft Only  
Quantity allowed per package	FORBIDDEN - Passenger Aircraft 35 Kg Net per package - Cargo Aircraft only
Shippers Declaration required	YES, see example on last page
AWB/Con-note or Transport Document statement requirements	“Dangerous Goods as per associated DGD - CAO”
Airline Requirements	RBI - (Restricted Battery ion) Full Acceptance check list required Required on NOTOC

Sodium Ion Batteries packed with equipment UN3552 - PI 977	Section I FULLY DECLARED DG	Section II Not subject to all aspects of the DGR
Applicable to:	Batteries over 100 Watt hour (W/h) Cells over 20 W/h Note: The maximum number of batteries allowed in the package is the appropriate number required to power the equipment plus two spare sets (set = number of cells or batteries required to power each piece of equipment).	Batteries no more than 100 W/h Cells no more than 20 W/h Note: The maximum number of batteries allowed in the package is the appropriate number required to power the equipment plus two spare sets (set = number of cells or batteries required to power each piece of equipment).
Packaging and marking requirements	UN Specification package must meet PG II Standard (See PI for types) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cells / Batteries may be packed in UN spec package then placed with equipment into strong rigid outer packaging, or Cells / Batteries and equipment all packed in UN spec packaging. Cells / Batteries must be individually protected and be completely enclosed by inner packaging. UN Number - UN 3552 Proper shipping name - Sodium ion batteries packed with equipment. Shippers and consignee details in full. Overpacking allowed. 	Strong Rigid Outer packaging (See PI for Types) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inner packages must completely enclose Cells /Battery, Protected against short circuit or arching, Cells / Batteries can be placed in separate inner packages to the equipment, The equipment and batteries must all be packed in the same outer package. Individual packages may be placed in an overpack. The overpack must not contain substances which might react dangerously with each other.
Label required	Class 9 Sodium ion battery hazard label. 	Battery handling label. (UN 3552 written on label) 
Quantity allowed per package	Maximum net quantity (batteries within package): 5 Kg Net - Passenger Aircraft 35 Kg Net - Cargo Aircraft Only	Maximum net quantity (batteries within package): 5 Kg Net - Passenger Aircraft 5 Kg Net - Cargo Aircraft Only
Shippers Declaration required	YES, see example on last page	NO
AWB/Con-note or Transport Document statement requirements	“Dangerous Goods as per associated DGD” Include “ CAO ” after the above statement if applicable	The words “Sodium ion batteries in compliance with section II of PI 977”
Airline Requirements	RLI - (Restricted Sodium ion) Full Acceptance check list required. Required on NOTOC	ELI - (Exempt Lithium or sodium ion) No check list required. Not required on NOTOC

Sodium ion batteries contained equipment UN3552 - PI 978	Section I FULLY DECLARED DG	Section II Not subject to all aspects of the DGR
Applicable to:	Batteries over 100 Watt hour (W/h) Cells over 20 W/h	Batteries no more than 100 W/h Cells no more than 20 W/h
Packaging and marking requirements	Strong Rigid Outer packaging (See PI for types, UN Specification packaging not required) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against short circuit or arching and accidental activation. • UN Number - UN 3552 • Proper shipping name - "Sodium ion batteries contained in equipment" • Shippers and consignee details in full. • Overpacking allowed. 	Strong Rigid Outer packaging (See PI for Types) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against short circuit or arching and accidental activation. • Individual packages may be placed in an overpack. The overpack must not contain substances which might react dangerously with each other.
Label required	Class 9 Sodium battery hazard label 	Battery handling label (UN 3552 written on label)  Note: The label and AWB statement, does not apply to: - Button cell batteries and circuit boards in equipment; OR - Consignments of no more than 2 packages where each package contains no more than 4 cells or 2 batteries installed in equipment.
Quantity allowed per package	Maximum net quantity (batteries within package): 5 Kg Net (batteries) - Passenger Aircraft 35 Kg Net (batteries) - Cargo Aircraft only	Maximum net quantity (batteries within package): 5 Kg Net - Passenger Aircraft 5 Kg Net - Cargo Aircraft Only
Shippers Declaration required	YES, see example on last page.	NO
AWB/Con-note or Transport Document statement requirements	"Dangerous Goods as per associated DGD" Include "CAO" after the above statement if applicable.	The words "Sodium ion batteries in compliance with section II of PI 978"
Airline Requirements	RLI - (Restricted Sodium ion) Full Acceptance check list required Required on NOTOC	ELI - (Exempt Sodium ion) No check list required Not required on NOTOC

Additional Information

NATURE AND QUANTITY OF DANGEROUS GOODS										
Dangerous Goods Identification										
UN or ID No.	Proper Shipping Name	Class or Division (Subsidiary Risk)	Packing Group	Quantity and Type of Packing	Pack Inst.	Authorization				
UN3552	Sodium ion batteries packed with equipment	9		1 Fibreboard box 5Kg	977					
UN3552	Sodium ion batteries contained in equipment	9		2 Fibreboard boxes 5kg	978					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSENGER AIRCRAFT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CARGO AIRCRAFT ONLY										
Airport of Destination		Shipment Type (Delete non-applicable)								
			NON-RADIOACTIVE		RADIOACTIVE XXXXXXXX					
NATURE AND QUANTITY OF DANGEROUS GOODS										
Dangerous Goods Identification										
UN or ID No.	Proper Shipping Name	Class or Division (Subsidiary Risk)	Packing Group	Quantity and Type of Packing	Pack Inst.	Authorization				
UN3551	Sodium ion batteries	9		1 Fibreboard box x 25Kg	976					

To calculate watt hour for Lithium ion and Sodium ion batteries
 $Ah \text{ (Amperes per hour)} \times V \text{ (Volt)} = Wh$

Examples of the DGD information required for Sodium batteries in compliance with section I of the packing instructions shown.

Maximum net per package for Passenger Aircraft = 5 Kg
 Maximum net per package for Cargo Aircraft Only = 35 Kg

To assist in aligning the labelling requirements of all modes of transport, the Hazard and Handling label must be as shown below:

Hazard label:



Handling label:
 Requires:
 UN number
 Optional
 Tel Number



As at 01 January 2023 the handling label no longer requires a telephone number to be included. The label with a telephone number can be used until 31 December 2026.

Sodium batteries packed without equipment must be separated from classes 1 (other than 1.4S), 2.1, 3, 4.1 and 5.1.

Example of the DGD information required for Sodium ion batteries in compliance with Packing instruction 976
 Maximum net per package for Cargo Aircraft = 35 Kg
FORBIDDEN on PAX aircraft