



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

June 27, 2023

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

DOT-SP 21240
(SECOND REVISION)

EXPIRATION DATE: 2027-05-31

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR § 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: Volkswagen Group of America Chattanooga Operations, LLC
Chattanooga, TN
2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATION:
 - a. This special permit authorizes the transportation in commerce of certain lithium ion battery packs each exceeding 35 kg net weight when transported aboard cargo aircraft. This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) or the International Civil Aviation Organization's Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (ICAO TI) other than as specifically stated herein. The most recent revision supersedes all previous revisions.
 - b. The safety analyses performed in the development of this special permit only considered the hazards and risks associated with the transportation in commerce.
 - c. No party status will be granted to this special permit.
 - d. This special permit serves as an approval under 49 CFR 173.185(b)(5) and Special Provision A99 of the ICAO TI and as a "Competent Authority Approval" as defined under 49 CFR § 107.1.
3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180 and the ICAO TI.
4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR § 172.101 Hazardous Materials Table Column (9B) in that a lithium battery may not exceed 35 kg when transported aboard cargo aircraft, except as specified herein.

Tracking Number: 2023034004

5. BASIS: This special permit is based on the application of Volkswagen Chattanooga dated February 28, 2023, submitted in accordance with § 107.109.
6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR § 172.101):

Hazardous Materials Description			
Proper Shipping Name	Hazard Class/ Division	Identification Number	Packing Group
Lithium ion batteries	9	UN3480	N/A

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:

a. PACKAGING:

- (1) Each battery pack must have a strong, impact-resistant outer casing.
- (2) Each battery pack must be packed in strong wooden crates and secured to the bottom of the custom deck board in the wooden crate with bottom skids.
- (3) Battery packs must be protected against short circuits.
- (4) The net weight of the battery pack in a package may not exceed 520 kg (1146 pounds).
- (5) A maximum of one battery pack per package is permitted.
- (6) The gross weight of a package may not exceed 700 kg (1543 pounds).
- (7) The packaging must comply with Packing Instruction 974 of the Supplement to the ICAO TI. Additionally, waste lithium battery packs and lithium battery packs being shipped for recycling or disposal are forbidden from air transport, and lithium ion battery packs must not be packed in the same outer packaging with substances and articles of Class 1 (explosives) other than Division 1.4S, Division 2.1 (flammable gases), Class 3 (flammable liquids), Division 4.1 (flammable solids), or Division 5.1 (oxidizers).

b. OPERATIONAL CONTROLS:

- (1) The authorized lithium ion battery packs identified as:
 - (i) Highline (a nominal energy content of 82 kWh) and are comprised of the battery modules in a 12S1P configuration and each battery module consists of cells in 8S3P; and
 - (ii) Midsize (a nominal energy content of 62 kWh) and consists of nine (9) battery modules in series, and each battery module consists of cells in 12S2P.
- (2) The battery packs must be equipped with an effective means to prevent dangerous reverse current flow.
- (3) All battery packs must be protected against short-circuiting.
- (4) The state of charge of the battery pack may not exceed 30% during air transportation.
- (5) Each battery pack must be equipped with a battery management system verified to prevent overcharge, short-circuiting, and overdischarge.

c. TESTING:

- (1) All lithium ion cells must be of a type that have passed all required tests as specified in the “UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, 6th Revised Edition.”
- (2) The battery modules must be of a type that have passed all required tests as specified in the “UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, 6th Revised Edition.”

d. MARKING: Each package covered under the terms of this special permit must be durably and legibly marked and displayed on a background of contrasting color with the special permit number: “DOT-SP 21240”.

8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

- a. Under the terms of this special permit, the grantee may only offer hazardous materials (i.e., the grantee is not authorized as a carrier).
- b. A person who is not a holder of this special permit who receives a package covered by this special permit may reoffer it for transportation provided no modification or change is made to the package and it is reoffered for transportation in conformance

with this special permit, the HMR, and the ICAO TI.

c. A current copy of this special permit must be maintained at each facility where the package is offered or reoffered for transportation.

d. This special permit in no way affects the need to obtain any required authorizations from other agencies of the United States Government or from the competent authorities of countries of origin, transit, destination, and the State of the Operator.

e. The special permit holder must maintain a record of all activity conducted under the authority granted in this special permit. The record must contain a complete listing and number of shipments made to include and upon request make this information available to a DOT representative or an enforcement official. The record must contain a listing and number of shipments made to include:

- (1) Dates of shipment; and
- (2) Description of each type of shipment.

9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Cargo aircraft only.

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS: A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each aircraft used to transport packages covered by this special permit. The shipper must furnish a copy of this special permit to the air carrier before or at the time the shipment is tendered.

11. COMPLIANCE: Failure by a person to comply with any of the following may result in suspension or revocation of this special permit and penalties prescribed by the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq:

- o All terms and conditions prescribed in this special permit and the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 171-180.
- o Persons operating under the terms of this special permit must comply with the security plan requirement in Subpart I of Part 172 of the HMR, when applicable.
- o Registration required by § 107.601 et seq., when applicable.

Each “Hazmat employee”, as defined in § 171.8, who performs a function subject to this special permit must receive training on the requirements and conditions of this special permit in addition to the training required by §§ 172.700 through 172.704.

No person may use or apply this special permit, including display of its number, when this special permit has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.

Under Title VII of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)—“The Hazardous Materials Safety and Security Reauthorization Act of 2005” (Pub. L. 109-59), 119 Stat. 1144 (August 10, 2005), amended the Federal hazardous materials transportation law by changing the term “exemption” to “special permit” and authorizes a special permit to be granted up to two years for new special permits and up to four years for renewals.

12. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Shipments or operations conducted under this special permit are subject to the Hazardous Materials Incident Reporting requirements specified in 49 CFR §§ 171.15 - Immediate notice of certain hazardous materials incidents, and 171.16 - Detailed hazardous materials incident reports. In addition, the grantee(s) of this special permit must notify the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, in writing, of any incident involving a package, shipment or operation conducted under terms of this special permit.

Issued in Washington, D.C.:



for William Schoonover
Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, East Building PHH-13, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Copies of this special permit may be obtained by accessing the Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at <https://www.phmsa.dot.gov/approvals-and-permits/hazmat/special-permits-search>. Photo reproductions and legible reductions of this special permit are permitted. Any alteration of this special permit is prohibited.

PO: Jephthah Nti