



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

March 11, 2024

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

DOT-SP 21320
(SECOND REVISION)

EXPIRATION DATE: 2028-02-29

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: Amazon.com, Inc.
Seattle, WA
2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATION:
 - a. This special permit authorizes the transportation in commerce of smaller lithium batteries, non-spillable batteries, and battery powered vehicles in shrink-wrapped overpacks (pods) by ground within the Amazon.com distribution network. This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) 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.
3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180.
4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR §§ 173.185(c)(1)(iii), 173.185(c)(3)(i), and 173.159a(c)(2) in that markings are not required; §§ 173.185(c)(2) and 173.159a(c)(1) in that strong outer packaging is not required; and § 173.220(d) in that packaging of battery powered vehicles/equipment is not required when these materials are packaged and offered in overpacks (pods) as specified herein.
5. BASIS: This special permit is based on the application of Amazon.com, Inc. dated February 23, 2024, submitted in accordance with § 107.109.

Tracking Number: 2024024837

6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR 172.101):

Hazardous Materials Description			
Proper Shipping Name	Hazard Class/ Division	Identification Number	Packing Group
Lithium ion batteries <i>including lithium ion polymer batteries*</i>	9	UN3480	N/A
Lithium ion batteries contained in equipment <i>including lithium ion polymer batteries*</i>	9	UN3481	N/A
Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment <i>including lithium ion polymer batteries*</i>	9	UN3481	N/A
Lithium metal batteries <i>including lithium alloy batteries*</i>	9	UN3090	N/A
Lithium metal batteries contained in equipment <i>including lithium alloy batteries*</i>	9	UN3091	N/A
Lithium metal batteries packed with equipment <i>including lithium alloy batteries*</i>	9	UN3091	N/A
Battery-powered vehicle <i>or</i> Battery-powered equipment	9	UN3171	N/A
Batteries, wet, non-spillable, <i>electric storage</i>	8	UN2800	N/A

*Only smaller lithium ion or lithium metal cells or batteries with a watt-hour rating or a lithium content, as applicable, conforming to § 173.185(c)(1)(iv) may be transported under the terms of this special permit.

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:a. PACKAGING:

(1) Packaging: Each hazardous material specified in paragraph 6 must be contained in a packaging consisting of original retail packaging, bags, boxes, or other suitable packaging designed to safely contain the material. Each package must be rigid unless the battery contained in equipment is afforded protection by the equipment in which it is contained.

(2) Overpack:

(i) The overpack (pod) is constructed of rigid metal framing with securely attached individual pockets on multiple shelves as described in Amazon.com Inc.'s December 23, 2021, application on file with the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS).

(ii) Packages must be individually loaded into a pocket to provide containment and separation of products. Each pocket has specially designed straps to retain the container packages. The pockets and straps must prevent damage to the product caused by shifting during transport.

(iii) Each overpack (pod) must be secured by shrink wrapping after being loaded with packages.

(iv) The aggregate gross weight of hazardous material in each pocket may not exceed 30 kg (66 pounds).

(3) The maximum net quantity of hazardous material permitted in one overpack (pod) may not exceed 250 kg (550 pounds).

b. TESTING: All lithium cells or batteries and those contained in equipment must be of a type that has been proven to meet all required tests as specified in the "UN Manual of Tests and Criteria," applicable Revised Edition, applicable at the time of testing. All cells and battery parameters such as energy ratings must remain on the original retail packaging, as applicable. Such information and the documented materials, including the cell or battery test summaries or reports, must be readily made available to a DOT representative upon request.

c. OPERATIONAL CONTROLS:

(1) This special permit authorizes shipments of packages in overpacks within the Amazon distribution network as detailed in the Amazon.com, Inc.'s December 23, 2021, application on file with OHMS. Shipment of these overpacks to Amazon.com Inc. customers is not allowed under this special permit.

(2) Hazmat trained person(s) must prepare the overpacks (pods) and be given training and specific operating procedures to ensure knowledge of and compliance with all provisions of this special permit.

(3) Packages in an overpack (pod) covered under the terms of this special permit must remain within the overpack (pod) while in transportation.

(4) Transportation is only authorized by private or contract carrier, a common carrier in a vehicle under exclusive use of such service, or rail.

(5) Each overpack (pod) must be secured against tipping or shifting, including relative motion between packages, within the vehicle or rail car on which it is being transported, under conditions normally incident to transportation.

d. **MARKING**: The outside of each shrink-wrapped overpack (pod) covered under the terms of this special permit must be durably and legibly marked and displayed in letters at least 12 mm (0.5 inches) high on a background of contrasting color with:

(1) “DOT-SP 21320” in accordance with § 172.304;

(2) The words “Ground Transport Only”; and

(3) The words “This POD may contain lithium cells or batteries (UN3480, UN3481, UN3090, UN3091), battery-powered vehicles (UN3171), and non-spillable batteries (UN2800)”.

8. **SPECIAL PROVISIONS**:

a. 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 or its contents and it is reoffered for transportation in conformance with this special permit and the HMR.

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

9. **MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED**: Motor vehicle and rail freight.

10. **MODAL REQUIREMENTS**:

a. A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each motor vehicle used to transport packages covered by this special permit; or

b. Each transport document, such as bill of lading, provided to the motor carrier or overpack (pod) may be marked with a QR code which when scanned provides a direct link to a specific URL where the most recent revision of the special permit can be viewed or downloaded. If the QR code is marked on the overpack, the URL must also be marked on the overpack.

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: BB