



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

**April 16, 2024**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

DOT-SP 21619  
(FIRST REVISION)

**EXPIRATION DATE: 2026-03-31**

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: Decade Products, LLC  
Grand Rapids, MI
2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATIONS:
  - a. This special permit authorizes the manufacture, mark, sale, and use of specially designed packagings for the transportation in commerce of damaged, defective, or recalled lithium ion cells and batteries and lithium metal cells and batteries and those contained in or packed with equipment. 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 development of this special permit only considered the hazards and risks associated with transportation in commerce. The safety analyses did not consider the hazards and risks associated with consumer use, use as a component of a transport vehicle or other device, or other uses not associated with transportation in commerce.
  - c. In accordance with 49 CFR 107.107(a), party status may not be granted to a manufacturing special permit. These packagings may be used in accordance with 49 CFR 173.22a.
3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171- 180.
4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR § 173.185(f) in that more than one lithium cell or battery per package is authorized and inner packagings are not required, as specified herein.

Tracking Number: 2024044433

5. BASIS: This special permit is based on the application of Decade Products, LLC dated August 14, 2023, submitted in accordance with § 107.105 and the public proceeding thereon and additional information dated April 11, 2024.
6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR 172.101):

| Hazardous Material Description                 |                        |                       |               |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Proper Shipping Name                           | Hazard Class/ Division | Identification Number | Packing Group |
| Lithium ion batteries                          | 9                      | UN3480                | N/A           |
| Lithium ion batteries contained in equipment   | 9                      | UN3481                | N/A           |
| Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment    | 9                      | UN3481                | N/A           |
| Lithium metal batteries                        | 9                      | UN3090                | N/A           |
| Lithium metal batteries contained in equipment | 9                      | UN3091                | N/A           |
| Lithium metal batteries packed with equipment  | 9                      | UN3091                | N/A           |

\*Only damaged, defective, or recalled lithium ion cells or batteries including those suspected of being damaged or defective and those packed with or contained in equipment including instances where the cells or batteries cannot be appropriately assessed prior to transport and the packaging is being used as an added safety precaution may be transported under the terms of this special permit. All cells and batteries must have met all requirements of § 173.185(a) prior to being damaged or defective.

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:

a. SAFETY CONTROLS:

- (1) Damaged, defective, or recalled lithium cells and batteries, and those contained in or packed with equipment, must have originally met the requirements for testing in accordance with the edition of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria authorized at the time of testing, prior to becoming DDRs.
- (2) Packages must be stored away from heat.
- (3) Lithium ion and metal cells and batteries must be secured and protected against short circuits while the packages are in transportation.

(4) Cells or batteries contained in or packed with equipment must be protected against short circuits (unless the equipment affords that protection) and unintentional activation.

(5) Each AkkuGrain Plug & Play Model TYP 800 SL 600 must not exceed the filled rated capacity of 4 kWh and the gross weight provided in the application.

(6) Each AkkuGrain Plug and Play Model TYP ACE VG1 must not exceed the filled rated capacity of 8.6 kWh and the gross weight provided in the application.

b. PACKAGING:

(1) Prescribed packagings are UN4H2 plastic boxes with inner metal lining tested and certified to the Packing Group I performance criteria.

(2) The package must be lined with 1 kg of protective agent per 0.17 kWh of energy content, as described in Decade Products, LLC's application dated August 14, 2023, and on file with the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety.

(3) Packages are forbidden from aircraft transportation under the terms of this special permit.

c. MARKING AND LABELING: Each package covered under the terms of this special permit must be durably and legibly marked/labeled and displayed on a background of contrasting color with the following:

(1) "DOT-SP 21619".

(2) The words: "Damaged/defective lithium ion battery" and/or "Damaged/defective lithium metal battery", as appropriate, in letters at least 12 mm (0.5 inch) in height.

(3) The words: "FOR GROUND AND VESSEL TRANSPORT ONLY – FORBIDDEN FOR TRANSPORTATION BY AIRCRAFT" at least 6 mm (0.25 inch) in height.

(4) The LITHIUM BATTERY label specified in and conforming to 49 CFR 172.447.

(5) Emergency response information including the emergency response telephone number in case of damage to the packaging or contents.

d. OPERATIONAL CONTROLS:

- (1) Decade Products, LLC must provide detailed closure, packing, and shipping instructions to individuals preparing shipments under the terms of the special permit.
- (2) Persons offering packages for transportation must comply with the closure instructions accompanying the packaging.
- (3) Additionally, each package 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 packaging, the URL must also be marked on the packaging.

8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

- a. In accordance with the provisions of Paragraph (b) of § 173.22a, persons may use the packaging authorized by this special permit for the transportation of the hazardous materials specified in paragraph 6, only in conformance with the terms of this special permit.
- b. A person who is not a holder of this special permit, but 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 offered for transportation in conformance with this special permit and the HMR.
- c. A current copy of this special permit must be maintained at each facility where the package is offered or reoffered for transportation.
- d. Each packaging manufactured under the authority of this special permit must be either (1) marked with the name of the manufacturer and location (city and state) of the facility at which it is manufactured or (2) marked with a registration symbol designated by the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety for a specific manufacturing facility.
- e. A current copy of this special permit must be maintained at each facility where the packaging is manufactured under this special permit. It must be made available to a DOT representative upon request.

9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Motor vehicle, rail freight, and cargo vessel.

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS:

- a. A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each cargo vessel.
- b. A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each common motor vehicle unless the package is marked in accordance with paragraphs 7.d.(3).

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.:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Schoonover", is written over a horizontal line.

for William Schoonover  
Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials 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: ae