



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous
Materials Safety
Administration**

February 23, 2026

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

DOT-SP 22077

EXPIRATION DATE: 2028-01-31

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR 107.109)

1. **GRANTEE:** Space Exploration Technologies Corp.
Hawthorne, CA
2. **PURPOSE AND LIMITATION:**
 - a. This emergency special permit authorizes the transportation in commerce of SpaceX Starship spacecraft and associated support equipment containing non-DOT specification packagings of hazardous materials. This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) or the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) code 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 “exemption” as defined in 7.9.1 of the IMDG code, 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.
4. **REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED:** 49 CFR §172.300 and 172.400 in that marking and labeling is not required; § 173.185(a) in that each lithium cell or battery must be of the type proven to meet the criteria in part III, sub-section 38.3 of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria; Part 173 in that non-specification packagings are authorized as described herein; 172.101(k)(8), 176.63(b), 176.116(a)(1), 176.116(e)(1), and 176.138(b) in that stowage and general segregation requirements do not apply except as specified herein.

Tracking Number: 2025085118

5. **BASIS:** This emergency special permit is based on the application of Space Exploration Technologies Corp. dated August 6, 2025, submitted in accordance with § 107.117 and the determination it was necessary in support of essential government functions.
6. **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR 172.101):**

Hazardous Materials Description			
Proper Shipping Name	Hazard Class/ Division	Identification Number	Packing Group
Lithium ion batteries packed with equipment <i>including lithium ion polymer batteries</i>	9	UN3481	N/A
Articles, explosive, n.o.s.*	1.2D	UN0467	N/A

*Only articles approved under EX2025062424 are authorized under this special permit.

7. **SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:**

a. **PACKAGING:** During transport, the Heavy Booster and Starship spacecraft must be secured to a specially designed trailer or barge as described in the application on file with the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS).

b. **TESTING:** In lieu of the testing prescribed in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, Section 38.3, each lithium ion cell and battery, as identified in the application, must successfully complete qualification testing in accordance with the AV-00000420 Starship standard.

c. **OPERATIONAL CONTROLS:**

(1) Only lithium ion batteries identified as Space Exploration Technologies Corp. battery packs composed of cells as described in the application on file with the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety dated August 6, 2025, may be offered for transportation under the terms of this special permit.

(2) Batteries must be equipped with an effective means of preventing dangerous reverse current flow for cells connected in parallel.

(3) Cells and batteries must be protected against short circuiting.

(4) Lithium ion cells or batteries that are leaking, liable to rapidly disassemble, dangerously react, produce a flame or a dangerous evolution of heat

or a dangerous emission of toxic, corrosive, or flammable gases, or vapors under normal conditions of transport may not be transported under this special permit.

(5) The lithium ion batteries may not exceed 30% state of charge during transportation.

(6) Each battery must be equipped with a battery management system (BMS) verified to prevent overcharge, short-circuiting, and over-discharge.

(7) Lithium ion battery packs must be packed in a manner that will prevent accidental activation.

(8) No changes to the battery packs or cells from the types listed above are authorized.

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 and IMDG.

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 cargo vessel.

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS: A current copy of this special permit must be carried aboard each cargo vessel or motor vehicle used to transport packages covered by this special permit.

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 Quade
Acting 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