



WORKING PAPER

**DANGEROUS GOODS PANEL (DGP)
MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE**

Atlantic City, United States, 4 to 8 April 2011

Agenda Item 5: Resolution, where possible, of the non-recurrent work items identified by the Air Navigation Commission or the panel:

Agenda Item 5.1: Review of provisions for the transport of lithium batteries

LITHIUM BATTERIES SUBJECT TO NEW UN TESTING REQUIREMENTS

(Presented by PRBA – The Rechargeable Battery Association)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes a new provision to clarify that a lithium cell or battery design type that was first tested in accordance with the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria at the time the cell or battery was first manufactured, does not require retesting to amended and/or revised editions of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria.

Action by the DGP-WG is in paragraph 2.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Between November 2008 and May 2010, a UN working group on the testing of lithium cells and batteries met four times. During the course of these meetings, substantial changes were made to improve the lithium battery tests in the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria.

1.2 The changes agreed to by the working groups were presented in a paper to the UN Subcommittee of Experts in December 2010 and formally adopted. The changes adopted by the UN Subcommittee were the first substantial changes made to the lithium battery tests in approximately 10 years.

1.3 It is generally recognized that a lithium cell or battery design tested in accordance with the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria at the time the design was first manufactured does not require retesting after an amended or revised edition of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria is published. However, it would be prudent to add a new provision in each of the lithium battery Packing Instructions 965 – 970 to help clarify this point due to the substantial changes to the lithium battery tests that will go into effect in 2013.

2. ACTION BY THE DGP-WG

2.1 The following Note is included in lithium battery Packing Instructions 965, 966, 967, 968, 969 and 970: “Note.— Batteries are subject to these tests irrespective of whether the cells of which they are composed have been so tested.”

The DGP-WG is invited to add the following provision immediately after the Note in each lithium battery packing instruction:

A cell or battery design type proven to meet the testing requirements of Section 38.3 of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria that were in effect at the time the cell or battery was first manufactured, does not require retesting to amended and/or revised editions of the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria.

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