

Statement from Boeing to Operators

The risks associated with transporting high-density lithium packages of batteries as cargo by air, coupled with the knowledge that the volume of such cargo is continually increasing, requires action to be taken.

The Boeing Company supports and advocates for global harmonized requirements related to the air transport of batteries. We support efforts to develop effective protective packaging materials to facilitate the safe shipment of lithium batteries as cargo.

Boeing agrees with the recommendation by the International Coordination Council for Aerospace Industry Association (ICCAIA) that high density packages of lithium ion batteries and cells not be transported as cargo on passenger airplanes until such time as safer methods of transport are established and followed. The company relayed this guidance to operators on July 17.

Boeing also agrees with the ICCAIA recommendation that appropriate packaging be developed and shipping regulations established to more safely ship lithium metal and lithium ion batteries as cargo on freighter airplanes.

Boeing recommended that operators choosing to carry lithium ion batteries as cargo, either on passenger or cargo-only airplanes, conduct a safety assessment.

Q. What specifically does Boeing recommend operators consider when making the safety assessment?

A. Boeing recommends a safety assessment that considers the following:

- The types and quantities of lithium batteries carried
- The fire protection features of each model aircraft in their fleet
- The expected flight profile (flight duration, ETOPS, etc.)
- History of battery shippers compliance to dangerous goods transport regulations
- Quantity of batteries per flight
- Location of batteries within the cargo compartment
- Proximity to other dangerous goods
- Potential ignition sources in compartment
- Other relevant aspects of the operator's cargo carriage experience