

## **Safety Alert**

### **June 30, 2015**

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#### **Transportation of PEDEGO Electric Bike Lithium Battery Packs that were Recalled by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)<sup>1</sup>**

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration recently discovered that approximately 1,800 unsafe lithium ion rechargeable battery packs are in transportation. These 36-volt and 48-volt lithium ion battery packs were recalled by PEDEGO Electric Bike Company through the CPSC's voluntary recall program due to incidents in which the batteries overheated and caught fire. The recalled battery packs have serial numbers that start with "DLG," listed on labels on the side of the battery pack. (Please see photo attached for identification).

On April 23, 2015, a shipping container carrying the PEDEGO lithium ion battery packs that are subject to this recall caught fire at the Port of Long Beach. The outer casing of the incident battery packs may have been removed, making them difficult to identify. Removing the outer casing may increase the risk of an incident during transportation by making them more prone to damage, short circuiting, overheating.

The battery packs are being transported through consumer recycling center drop-off points. Recycling center drop-off sites and transporters should be aware that the battery packs are prone to overheating and catching fire, and are unsafe for transportation unless properly packaged.

Damaged or defective batteries can pose a greater transportation risk than undamaged batteries and must be packaged as follows:

- Each cell or battery must be placed in an individual, non-metallic, inner packaging that completely encloses the battery, if any exposed wires are present they must be protected against short circuits.
- Each inner packaging must be surrounded by cushioning material that is non-combustible, non-conductive, and absorbent.
- Each inner package must be individually placed in an outer packaging listed below that meets the Packing Group I performance level: Metal (4A, 4B, 4N), wooden (4C1, 4C2, 4D, 4F), or plastic (4H2) boxes; or metal (1A2, 1B2, 1N2), plywood (1D), or plastic (1H2) drums.
- The outer package must be marked with an indication that the package contains a "Damaged/defective lithium ion battery."

If you receive a battery and have concerns regarding the appropriate handling, contact PHMSA's Hazardous Materials Information Center (HMIC) toll-free at 1-800-467-4972, or at 202-366-4488 for the Washington, DC area.

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<sup>1</sup> Link to the CPSC's Voluntary Recall Notice:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/2015/Pedego-Recalls-Electric-Bicycle-Batteries/>

## Additional Information

Incidents involving these battery packs must be reported in writing, via Form DOT F 5800.1, by the party in possession of the battery pack (including storage incidental to transportation and handling) at the time of occurrence, within 30 days of discovery of the incident. Incidents involving death, serious injury, or certain other emergency circumstances such as facility evacuations, must be reported within 12 hours to the National Response Center (NRC) at 1-800-424-8802 (toll free) or 202-267-2675. Information regarding reporting requirements and a guide for preparing a written incident report can be found at 49 CFR 171.15 and 171.16.



Batteries with casing still on, there are two types' aluminum and plastic cases.



Batteries without casings (minus the red tape).



Batteries stripped down to cells.



Manufacturers bar code and serial numbers on stripped battery.