

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

As of March 25, 2022, there have been 357 aviation related incidents involving lithium batteries carried as cargo or baggage recorded since January 23, 2006. **Note:** These are events that the FAA is aware of and should not be considered a complete listing of all such incidents. The incident summaries included here are intended to be brief and objective. They do not represent all information the FAA has collected, nor do they include all investigative or enforcement action taken. This list does not include three major accidents where lithium battery cargo shipments were implicated but not proven to be the source of the fire: An Asiana Airlines 747 near South Korea on July 28, 2011, a UPS 747 on September 3, 2010 and a UPS DC-8 in Philadelphia, PA on February 7, 2006.

| Date of Incident | Reporter | Type Carriage | Category | Reported Description |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| 03/10/22 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's e-cigarette device was placed into a thermal containment bag by airline crew members as a precautionary measure to prevent any potential release. It's unclear what device malfunction may have triggered the abundance of caution. |
| 03/02/22 | American Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger's laptop went into thermal runaway inflight. The fire was extinguished and placed into a thermal containment bag by airline personnel. There were no injuries reported. The aircraft landed without further incident. |
| 02/27/22 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | While on a Jet Bridge, a passenger's backpack began smoking due to a Lithium Battery fire. |
| 02/16/22 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-cigarette within a passenger's carry on bag went into thermal runaway. A small fire was extinguished and the item secured in a thermal containment bag. |
| 02/11/22 | Air Evac Lifeteam | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-cigarette containing two lithium batteries overheated resulting in fire and smoke while inside of a crewmember's flight suit pocket. The crewmember received 2nd and 3rd degree burns and was transported to a hospital for medical treatment. |
| 02/13/22 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-cigarette went into thermal runaway during a flight from Los Angeles to Chicago. The e-cigarette was submerged in water and placed within a thermal containment bag. |
| 01/07/22 | Endeavor Air | Passenger | Cell Phone | A Lithium battery thermal event occurred when a cell phone battery overheated. The aircraft was deplaned. One passenger was treated for injuries. |
| 01/03/22 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A box containing Lithium batteries reportedly ignited at a cargo sort facility. |
| 12/31/21 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A Laptop within checked baggage was discovered smoking within the aircraft's lower cargo hold while loading. The incident resulted in a forty five minute departure delay. |
| 12/28/21 | DHL Airlines | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During the transportation process a Lithium battery was discovered to have burnt through the outer packaging. It's unclear what caused the thermal event. |

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| 12/25/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A cell phone battery overheated and released smoke into the cabin while in flight. The item was placed into a Thermal Containment Bag and secured by the flight crew. |
| 12/24/21 | American Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A piece of carry-on luggage containing a Lithium battery powered device started smoldering in flight. The flight was diverted. |
| 12/23/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A vape pen with a Lithium Ion Battery overheated. The pen was placed into a Thermal Containment Bag. |
| 12/21/21 | DHL Airlines | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing Lithium Ion Batteries exploded and caught fire within a cargo facility. |
| 12/20/21 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A lithium ion battery stowed within a customers briefcase caught fire. The fire took place within the aircraft cabin while positioned at the gate. The battery was part of an e-cigarette. |
| 12/12/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A Lithium Battery heated up and expanded while in flight. There was no release or fire reported. The Battery was placed in a Thermal Containment Bag. |
| 12/07/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A disposable e-Cig fell into a lavatory and started to smoke. The e-cig was placed in a Thermal Containment bag |
| 11/29/21 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's Vape Pen Battery started smoking onboard an aircraft while taxiing for takeoff. The aircraft returned to the gate with no injuries reported. |
| 11/16/21 | American Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passengers cell phone was smoking on-board the plane while travelling from Charlotte, NC to Frankfurt, Germany. The phone was placed in a fire containment bag. The flight was not diverted. |
| 11/13/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | During offloading, there was a Lithium Ion Battery found to be smoking and resulted in a melted bag. |
| 11/02/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A Lithium Battery was discovered overheating and releasing smoke within the aircraft cabin. |
| 10/27/21 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During the aviation cargo sortation process a hazardous materials package was discovered emitting smoke. Upon review of the package contents, nineteen Lithium-ion batteries had melted, possibly as a result of a handling error. |

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| 10/19/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | An inflight thermal runaway event occurred when a passenger's cell phone overheated and expanded. Aircrew personnel mitigated the incident by placing the phone inside a thermal containment bag. |
| 10/13/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's checked bag burst into flames during the offloading process. The suspected source of fire was a Lithium battery powered smart tag. Airport Fire Department personnel arrived on scene and extinguished the flames. |
| 09/30/21 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During sort operations, a Lithium Battery caught fire and released smoke inside of a building. |
| 09/29/21 | Republic Airways | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A thermal runaway event occurred during the boarding process. A Lithium battery inside a passenger's carry-on baggage suddenly began to burn and emit smoke. The incident was contained by airline personnel. There were no injuries reported. |
| 09/10/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's cell phone battery overheated while the aircraft was on its final approach to Denver, CO. The incident was contained by airline personnel prior to landing. There were no injuries reported. |
| 08/20/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger was charging a laptop computer with a small power bank. The power bank started to smoke and spark in a thermal runaway event. The incident was contained by airline personnel. There were no injuries reported. |
| 08/11/21 | Envoy Air | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A laptop computer battery began to smoke while onboard a flight that was still at the gate. The laptop was removed from the aircraft prior to takeoff. |
| 08/15/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | An iPad went into thermal runaway during a flight from Korea to San Francisco International Airport over the Pacific Ocean. The incident was contained by airline personnel. There were no injuries reported. |
| 08/08/21 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's e-Cigarette started overheating. The device was put in a battery containment bag. No injuries were reported. |
| 08/05/21 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A passenger was sleeping with a flashlight around their neck when the battery began to burn. The flashlight was put in a "burn bag" and secured by airline personnel. |

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| 08/04/21 | Horizon Air | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-Cigarette device “sizzled and smoked” inflight while headed to Sacramento, CA from Seattle, WA. Airline personnel contained the incident. |
| 08/03/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A piece of luggage containing a Lithium battery powered multi charger device was found smoking while being transferred to another flight. The luggage was removed from circulation by the airline. |
| 07/31/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's cell phone battery began to smoke and was contained by airline personnel. |
| 07/31/21 | Frontier Airlines | Passenger | Unknown | A passenger’s luggage was found damaged evidently by a small fire. The heat source was not determined but is suspected to be a Lithium battery. |
| 07/30/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger’s e-Cigarette began smoking while in flight. Airline personnel used a thermal containment bag to deescalate the incident. |
| 07/18/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | During routine screening, the Transportation Security Administration discovered a notebook computer with a swollen Lithium battery still hot. The computer was removed from the luggage and the passenger was informed that the computer could not be transported. |
| 07/16/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A vaping device overheated while inflight from Los Cabos, Mexico to Chicago, IL. There was no release or injuries involved. The incident was contained by airline personnel. |
| 07/15/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) discovered a laptop with a swollen Lithium Battery, during the screening process. The airline removed the laptop from the passenger’s luggage and the passenger was informed that the laptop could not be transported. |
| 07/13/21 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A fire involving a Lithium battery inside of a package ensued at a cargo location. The package contained four Lithium batteries of which one burned at the cargo warehouse facility. |
| 07/08/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | While in flight, a battery charger overheated and released a small amount of smoke inside the aircraft. The charging device was placed inside a thermal containment bag. There were no injuries reported. |

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| 07/03/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | During the deplaning process, an e-Cigarette Lithium battery started smoking. The passenger deplaned before airline personnel could assist. |
| 06/30/21 | JetBlue Airways | Passenger | Cell Phone | A Lithium battery powered cell phone went into thermal runaway during flight. The fire was extinguished by airline personnel. The cell phone was placed on a metal tray for temporary containment. There were no injuries reported. |
| 06/21/21 | Envoy Air | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A Lithium battery powered Vape Pen went into thermal runaway and started sparking. A flight attendant sprayed the vape device with a Halon extinguisher and placed it into a containment bag until the plane landed. There were no injuries reported. |
| 06/18/21 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A Lithium battery inside of a package was found smoking due to unknown causes. The incident occurred while the package was traveling down a conveyor belt. No injuries were reported. |
| 06/11/21 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A shipment offered for air transportation was discovered smoking in cargo and isolated. Item was determined that a Lithium Battery went into thermal runaway within the shipment. |
| 06/09/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Two passengers reportedly engaged in a tussle that resulted in a cell phone being damaged and produced smoke due to Lithium battery damage. As a result of the incident the aircraft was diverted to Pensacola International Airport. |
| 06/09/21 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Reported that while aircraft was on the runway, a power bank started smoking. The power bank was placed inside a fire containment bag and aircraft returned to gate. |
| 05/31/21 | American Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | An aircraft passenger's phone started to smoke while on an aircraft at the Boston International Airport. As a result, there was an emergency de-planement. One passenger was injured during de-planement. All passengers returned to gate area. |
| 05/19/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's portable battery charging unit started to overheat and smoke. This released smoke into the air onboard a flight. |

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| 05/19/21 | Horizon Air | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A pair of ear buds started smoking. The ear buds were placed in a containment bag. The flight was in the process of pushing when this event occurred causing the flight to return to the gate. Once at the gate, the ear buds were disposed. There were no injuries or damage to the aircraft. |
| 05/14/21 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A power bank in a passenger's back pack stored under seat started to overheat and smoke. The incident occurred while onboard an airplane that was in flight. There were no reported injuries. Incident occurred 20 - 30 minutes prior to landing over Tampa, FL. |
| 04/23/21 | JetBlue Airways | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's i-Phone 10 had a thermal discharge while the aircraft was at the gate. |
| 04/05/21 | Mesa Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A lithium battery charger that was in the luggage of a passenger exploded while being transported from the gate to the aircraft. |
| 03/17/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's vaping device began to overheat in his pocket while in the lavatory. Flight attendants placed the device in a containment bag. Fire rescue met the aircrew upon landing and disposed of the device. |
| 03/09/21 | FEDEX | Cargo | Cell Phone | A package containing cellular phones and spare cell phone batteries was run over by handling equipment during cargo sortation causing a fire that was extinguished by airport fire rescue upon arrival. |
| 03/03/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's cell phone battery began to burn while in flight over the Gulf of Mexico. Airline personnel extinguished the fire and secured the phone in a thermal containment bag. |
| 02/19/21 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's checked bag began to burn during routine screening operations at the TSA baggage inspection area. The fire was contained by airport personnel. |
| 02/16/21 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's phone began to smoke while watching a movie on it in flight. The phone was placed in an inflight containment bag until the flight landed. |
| 01/27/21 | United Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A thermal event ensued when a pair of earbuds were being charged by a passenger in flight. The earbuds were placed in a thermal containment bag until the smoke was extinguished. |
| 01/04/21 | DHL | Cargo | Laptop | A package containing a laptop computer began to smolder when the battery overheated in a thermal runaway event. The package was intercepted and placed in a metal recovery drum. |

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| 12/22/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A piece of checked luggage began to burn on the baggage claim belt. The cause of fire was identified as an e-Cigarette charger that began to smolder and burn. |
| 12/18/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A portable electronic device heated and expanded while in flight. Flight attendants put the battery into a containment bag. |
| 12/03/20 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-Cigarette caught fire in a passenger's carry-on bag while the aircraft was still at the gate. The batteries were exposed to metal causing a short. Two passengers sustained minor injuries. |
| 11/04/20 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A Lithium battery fire ensued when a package was being off loaded from a cargo aircraft. Fire department personnel arrived to extinguish the fire. |
| 10/14/20 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A shipment containing batteries began to burn inside of a package during the handling process. |
| 10/09/20 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A shipment containing Lithium batteries began to burn inside of a unit load device causing an evacuation at an air cargo sort facility. The incident was referred to the USPS investigative service. |
| 10/07/20 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger was charging a power bank that began to overheat and smoke during flight. The battery was extinguished and secured in a containment bag. |
| 09/29/20 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger's laptop computer began to smolder and burn while in-flight causing the aircraft to divert and land at an alternate location. |
| 09/22/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger carry-on bag containing e-Cigarette batteries caught fire in the cabin. Flight attendants quickly extinguished the blaze. |
| 09/04/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | A Lithium battery used to power a portable Bluetooth speaker began to burn in a piece of luggage while in flight. An inflight emergency was declared and the aircraft was diverted for an emergency landing. Upon landing, the fire was contained. |
| 08/20/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-cigarette charger began to burn inside a passenger's checked bag while being of loaded from the aircraft. An airline employee sustained minor injuries. |
| 08/12/20 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Two laptops containing batteries began to burn in a passengers checked baggage. No injuries were reported. |

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| 08/10/20 | Kalitta Air | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing a Lithium-ion battery was dropped during the cargo handling process causing a fire. The facility was evacuated as a precaution. |
| 08/02/20 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger alerted a flight attendant that their laptop screen began to melt during flight causing the pilot to divert and land at a different location. The laptop was placed in a fire containment bag and secured. |
| 07/08/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's vape pen battery started to burn at the landing gate. The passenger reportedly immediately deplaned and fled. Flight attendants used a fire extinguisher and containment bag to control the thermal event. |
| 07/08/20 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A driver noticed a burning smell coming from packages containing Lithium batteries originating from overseas. Charring and burn marks were discovered within one of the packages. |
| 06/24/20 | DHL | Cargo | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A shipment destined for air transport containing E-Cigarettes caught fire and while loaded in a delivery van. |
| 06/24/20 | Frontier | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | A portable electronic device (PED) began overheating and expanding during flight. The PED was subsequently placed in a fire containment bag. |
| 06/23/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | A battery powered welding device in checked baggage was left on by a passenger, was inadvertently activated and began smoking during offloading. |
| 05/30/20 | Atlas Air | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A pallet fire believed to have been caused by batteries erupted during transfer sortation operations. |
| 04/20/20 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A vaping device began smoking while in checked luggage. Officials contained the incident and intercepted the device prior to loading. |
| 03/22/20 | Frontier | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger's laptop began smoking in carry-on luggage during flight. The laptop was placed in a containment bag and monitored by crew. |
| 03/22/20 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Two spare batteries began smoking in a passenger's carry-on bag causing minor damage to the aircraft carpet. Passenger sustained minor burns. |
| 03/20/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Two batteries in a passenger's charger for a vape device started to smoke and melt. |
| 03/18/20 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Three undeclared Lithium batteries concealed within a DVD player began smoking during sortation operations. |

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| 03/11/20 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Passenger was using his laptop to charge batteries while in his carry-on prior to take off. The batteries began to smoke causing the flight attendants to deplane the aircraft to contain the fire. |
| 03/08/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | An e-Cigarette began smoking in a passenger's pocket while using a laptop computer to charge the device in flight. |
| 03/08/20 | FEDEX | Cargo | Other Device Types | A package containing a smart meter spontaneously combusted. The fire was extinguished and the package placed in a salvage drum. |
| 03/08/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's laptop battery began overheating in flight. The battery was secured in a containment bag. |
| 02/26/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A flight was diverted when a passenger's cell phone started to burn. The cell phone was placed in a containment bag and later discarded. |
| 02/20/20 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger traveling with a battery was burned when the battery caught fire shortly after takeoff burning the passenger's shirt. The fire was contained and the flight continued on to its destination. |
| 01/22/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A vaping device began smoking while in a carry-on bag prior to entering a connecting flight. |
| 01/22/20 | FDEA | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A Lithium battery began to smolder during sort operations. Package was isolated and contained in a salvage drum. |
| 01/22/20 | Eviation Aircraft | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A lithium battery used to power an experimental aircraft exploded at Prescott Airport in Prescott, AZ. The investigation is ongoing. |
| 01/17/20 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A vaping device began smoking during flight. The matter was brought to the attention of flight attendants that contained the incident for the remainder of the flight. |
| 01/14/20 | American Airlines | N/A | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | At Indianapolis, IN, (IND) a passenger's bag caught fire while it was on the baggage conveyor system en route to the baggage sortation room. An e-cigarette and spare batteries were inside the bag. |
| 01/14/20 | United Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | A GoPro device overheated in the cabin while the preparing for take-off. The Pilots decided to return to the gate. |
| 01/10/20 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | On flight 1287, from NY, NY (LGA) to Atlanta, GA (ATL), a customer's e-cigarette overheated. The device was placed in a battery containment bag. |

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| 01/10/20 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Upon arrival at St Croix, USVI, (STX), spare batteries from an e-cigarette fell from a passenger's bag and caught fire when they impacted the floor, scorching the carpet. |
| 12/26/19 | UPS | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | A battery in a shipment was damaged during customs inspection and began to spark and smoke. The battery was placed in a salvage drum. |
| 12/03/19 | Southwest Airlines | N/A | Laptop | The battery of a passengers laptop overheated and expanded while being screened at the TSA checkpoint in Sacramento, CA (SMF). |
| 11/28/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | On flight 1932 from Las Vega, NV (LAS) to Detroit, MI (DTW), while taxiing to the gate upon arrival at DTW a fire occurred from a battery used for an electronic cigarette. On board fire containment bag was utilized to extinguish the fire. |
| 11/18/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 285, a lithium battery fire occurred during the boarding process. The on board fire containment bag was utilized to extinguish the fire. |
| 11/16/19 | UPS | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | UPS in Louisville, KY reported that a lithium-ion battery inside package experienced a dangerous evolution of heat that occurred. No fire occurred. The package was charred and scorched. |
| 11/10/19 | UPS | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the UPS facility in Cologne, Germany, a package was discovered emitting a burning odor; the package contained a lithium battery that was smoldering. |
| 11/09/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | In flight, about one hour away from Denver, CO, a passenger's e cigarette with lithium batteries inside their coat began emitting a burning odor. Investigation is ongoing. |
| 11/07/19 | UPS | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the sort facility in Louisville, KY, while opening a box to perform an inspection, a lithium ion battery was drilled into resulting, in a thermal event (charring, smoldering / no flame). |
| 10/26/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 2762 from Las Vegas, NV (LAS) to Chicago, IL (MDW) a passenger's lithium battery began smoking during a flight. The flight attendant took the battery, placed it in a containment bag and cooled it with water. |
| 10/25/19 | PSA | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | While a passenger was boarding a flight their bag began emitting smoke. The bag contained an electronic cigarette, the battery and its charger was burned. |

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

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| 09/10/19 | American Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | In Dallas, TX (DFW), a passenger bag containing a portable speaker caught fire in a baggage cart on the ramp at gate D34 . The fire was extinguished, but several adjacent passenger bags were affected as well. All baggage involved was placed in American Airlines hazmat holding for further investigation. |
| 09/05/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | While deplaning, a passenger's laptop was smoking. The passenger ran onto the boarding bridge with the laptop. No further information about the type of battery or the passenger's name. |
| 09/04/19 | FEDEX | Cargo | Cell Phone | A package containing an I-phone was dropped and dragged by handling equipment and subsequently caught fire. An employee submersed the package in water to extinguish the fire. |
| 08/26/19 | Atlas Air | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During shipment handling in the cargo warehouse, a forklift operator inadvertently punctured a box on a pallet. The box caught fire when the forklift blade made contact with the lithium batteries inside. The fire only lasted a few seconds and self extinguished. |
| 08/22/19 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On a SkyWest flight from San Francisco, CA (SFO) to Austin, TX (AUS) a passenger's portable battery charger began to heat up and would not turn off, it then began to smoke. The flight attendant placed the device in a battery containment bag and monitored the device. |
| 08/12/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During baggage loading, a customer's checked bag began emitting smoke while it was on the baggage cart prior to being loaded on the aircraft. The source was identified as spare lithium batteries contained within portable charger. Batteries shorted out, began to burn and caused clothing contained within to smolder and melt. The bag was extinguished and returned to TSA for additional screening. No injuries or additional damage was reported. |
| 08/04/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's cell phone began smoking during boarding. The phone was placed in a fire containment bag with water and removed from aircraft. No injuries or damage reported. |

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| 07/26/19 | DHL | N/A | Other Device Types | A package was discovered smoldering during the sorting process at the Erlanger, KY (CVG) HUB. The package was removed from the sort system and placed in a salvage drum. It contained electronic equipment with a lithium-ion battery, approximately 50wh. The inner package showed signs of burning. |
| 07/15/19 | N/A | N/A | Laptop | At JFK Airport, a Unit Load Device (ULD) was inadvertently dropped as it was being transported from the warehouse to the tarmac. Shortly after it a package inside of it began to emit smoke and soon after was on fire. The ULD contained several boxes of used laptops |
| 06/30/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | After Southwest airlines flight 1903 was fully boarded, a passenger's carry-on bag under the seat, containing an e-cig nit core i4 battery charger with two batteries started to smoke. The flight attendant used the halon fire extinguisher. The aircraft was evacuated and taken out of service. |
| 06/19/19 | N/A | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | While going through TSA screening, a passenger's carry on bag caught fire and was put out by a fire extinguisher. The cause of the fire appeared to have come from items in a pouch, which included a Power Bank. |
| 06/16/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's phone became lodged in their seat while they were sleeping, they awoke to the phone smoking. The phone was placed in a containment bag and then returned to the passenger upon arrival in Houston. |
| 06/09/19 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Approximately 7 hours into flight AA731 from London, UK (LHR) to Charlotte, NC (CLT), a bag in the overhead compartment began to smoke. It was removed and extinguished. The source appeared to be an e-cigarette which was placed in a containment bag. No other damage was reported. |
| 06/07/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Onboard DL flight 68, from Narita, Japan (NRT) to Portland, OR (PWM) a battery pack plugged into a passengers tablet caught fire. It was extinguished and placed in a containment bag. No other damage was reported. |
| 06/02/19 | British Airways | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A large lithium-ion battery (1,200 Wh) caught fire at a cargo warehouse in Los Angeles, CA (LAX). The fire was extinguished but then re-ignited several times. It was being shipped as US Mail and was not declared to contain any hazardous material. |

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| 05/22/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | While loading baggage on DL flight 880 from Baltimore, MD (BWI) to Minneapolis, MN (MSP), ramp personnel noticed a bag on the belt loader emitting smoke. It was placed onto the ground and caught fire. The fire department was called and they extinguished the bag. The bag contained an E-cigarette, spare batteries. |
| 05/21/19 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing a power pack/charger was run over and dragged by a piece of ground equipment and subsequently ignited. It was extinguished and held in a salvage drum for inspection. |
| 05/03/19 | PSA | Passenger | Laptop | On PSA flight 5062, from Sarasota, FL (SRQ) to Charlotte, NC (CLT) a passenger's laptop began to emit signs of a dangerous evolution of heat while onboard, prior to pushback. The laptop was thrown out of the aircraft by the flight attendant, where the ramp personnel used a fire extinguisher to prevent the laptop from actually burning. The laptop was taken by the fire department. |
| 04/15/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | While waiting to board her flight, a passenger's E-cigarette began to smolder and emit smoke while she was holding it. She dropped the device and it began to make popping sounds. The fire department responded and rendered the device safe. No injuries or damage were reported. |
| 04/05/19 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | On SWIA flight 5598 from Los Angeles (LAX) to Mammoth, CA (MMH), after push back, a flight attendant's electronic flight attendant device (EFAD) battery caught on fire. The fire was extinguished quickly and the EFAD was placed in the fire containment bag. |
| 03/31/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Onboard flight 3946, from Austin, TX (AUS) to Kansas City, KS (MCI), a passenger's laptop began to spark and smoke. |
| 03/29/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On a flight from Chicago, IL (ORD) to London, UK (LHR), a passenger reported that a cell phone began to smoke after it was inadvertently lodged between two seats. Investigation is ongoing. No further information available at this time |
| 03/26/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | On a flight from Manchester, UK (MAN) to Newark, NJ (EWR), a passenger reported that an e-cigarette began to smoke. The item was placed into a containment bag. Investigation is ongoing. No further information available at this time. |

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| 03/22/19 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | In St. Kitts (SKB), during baggage loading, a passenger's checked bag was found to be emitting smoke and flames in the cargo bin. Airline personnel extinguished the fire. The bag contained an E-cigarette battery charger and spare lithium-ion batteries. The floor of the aircraft bin was scorched and burned. The aircraft was taken out of service for the day while the cleanup was completed and damage was assessed. |
| 03/20/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | During passenger security screening at the TSA checkpoint, a passenger's tablet overheated and began to smoke. The tablet was removed from the screening area by the Port Authority Police and is being held at the Port Authority Police Station. No other damage or injuries were reported. The item was a Samsung Tablet. |
| 03/19/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During flight, approximately :45 minutes prior to arrival into Cleveland, OH (CLE), a passenger gave the Flight Attendant a cell phone battery charger with flashlight that was hot and began to smoke. The device was placed in the on-board fire containment bag. |
| 03/12/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | In San Diego, CA (SAN), during baggage loading, a passenger's checked bag was found to be emitting smoke in the cargo bin. The bag was removed and extinguished by Southwest Airlines personnel. The bag contained an E-cigarette battery charger and spare lithium-ion batteries. Other bags and packages adjacent to the bag were damaged. The aircraft was damaged and taken out of service. |
| 03/08/19 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | In Chicago, IL (MDW), a passenger's Li-ion Battery Power Bank (Capacity 8000 mAh 3.7V (29.6Wh)) began to smoking prior to pushback. The power bank removed and given to Operations staff. |
| 03/02/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On a flight from Madrid, Spain, (MAD) to Newark, NJ (EWR), a passenger dropped their cell phone and it started smoking. The cellphone was placed in a fire containment bag and the smoke stopped. |
| 03/01/19 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | At the sort center in Indianapolis, IN (IND), a package containing three laptop computers was discovered to be overheating and emitting smoke. The package was held for FAA investigation. |
| 02/28/19 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | As a passenger was boarding a flight with a lithium battery that started to smoke during the boarding process. The investigation is ongoing. |

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| 02/27/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A cell phone connected to a battery pack caught fire on board flight. It was extinguished and removed from the aircraft. |
| 02/13/19 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight 3879, from New York, NY (LGA), to Houston, TX (IAH), while the aircraft was at the gate prior to departure, a passenger's bag in the overhead compartment was emitting smoke. The bag was removed from the aircraft and extinguished. No injuries reported. |
| 01/28/19 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | While waiting to board flight 797 from Austin, TX (AUS) to Detroit, MI (DTW), a spare battery in a passenger's carry-on bag caught fire in the boarding bridge. A flight attendant with a bottle of water extinguished the fire. The terminals of the batteries were not protected. |
| 01/11/19 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On Flight 3700 Tucson, AZ (TUS) to Salt Lake City, UT (SLC), prior to takeoff, a passenger notified the flight attendant that a battery pack/charger in his carry-on bag was overheating. The flight attendant placed the device in water, then into a containm |
| 12/24/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 1673 from Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL) to San Juan, PR (SJU), at flight level 390, a battery pack in a passenger's backpack over heated and began to emit smoke. A fire extinguisher was used on the device and then it was place into a containment bag. The flight returned to the gate to remove the device. There were no injuries or damage reported. |
| 12/15/18 | Mesa Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During the baggage off-load of United Express/Mesa Airlines flight 6080, from Houston, TX (IAH) to Detroit, MI (DTW) on December 15, 2018, a bag was found to be emitting smoke. The bag was opened by the airport police to reveal a battery charger with four batteries. The luggage was charred and the battery charger appeared to be melted. |
| 12/02/18 | Asiana Airlines | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the cargo warehouse in Los Angeles, CA (LAX), after offloading and during container breakdown, a cargo handler inadvertently punctured a box of undeclared lithium-ion batteries with a forklift. Shortly after the box began to smoke. The fire department responded and they extinguished the box. The investigation is ongoing. |
| 11/24/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | During checked baggage screening at Logan Airport (BOS) Boston, MA, The TSA discovered and e-cigarette was smoking inside of a passengers checked bag. |

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| 11/23/18 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the DHL sort facility in San Juan, PR (SJU), US Customs discovered a battery inside of a package. Upon removal, it began to smoke and was isolated until it stopped burning. No other damage was reported. |
| 11/09/18 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the DHL sort facility in Erlanger, KY (CVG), a package containing 22 lithium-ion batteries fell from a pallet and began to smoke. One damaged battery was removed from the package. There was no noticeable damage to the other 21 batteries in the package. |
| 10/06/18 | FEDEX | N/A | Cell Phone | During unloading of a container transport truck in Memphis, TN, 4 ULD's were found to be damaged from fire. The ULD's contained various packages of cell phones, watches and headphones, all with lithium batteries contained in equipment. The investigation is ongoing. |
| 09/25/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Medical Devices | At the FEDEX facility in Las Vegas, NV, a package containing a bladder scanner with a 54wh battery began to smoke and then catch fire during loading onto a delivery truck, after air transportation. |
| 09/03/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During passenger checked baggage screening at Las Vegas, NV (LAS), a passenger's bag began to smoke as it was on the screening belt. The bag contained an E-cigarette and loose spare lithium batteries. |
| 09/02/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During passenger boarding at Las Vegas, NV (LAS), a passenger's bag began to smoke as it was pushed under a seat. The bag contained a lithium battery installed in a charging unit. The bag was removed from the aircraft. |
| 08/31/18 | N/A | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | During baggage screening at Las Vegas, NV (LAS), the TSA discovered a lithium battery installed in a charging unit overheating and burning during security screening. The battery terminals were not protected. The batteries and charger were destroyed. |
| 08/29/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Cell Phone | FEDEX personnel discovered a package at the sort center in Memphis, TN, that was emitting smoke. The shipment was contained 180 boxes of used cell phones on a pallet. A forklift blade punctured one box, damaging ten of the phones and batteries, causing smoke and fire. The package removed from the shipment and pending investigation. |

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| 08/28/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | FEDEX personnel discovered a package at the sort center in Memphis, TN, that was emitting smoke. The shipment contained a laptop with a lithium-ion battery. The package appeared to be crushed during transit. The package inspected and cleared for disposal by the fire department. |
| 08/16/18 | N/A | N/A | Laptop | During baggage screening at Gulfport, MS (GPT), the TSA discovered a laptop battery installed in a laptop overheating during screening. The battery was removed and moments later, it began to emit smoke, at which time the battery was removed from the building. No damage or injuries were reported. |
| 08/02/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | FEDEX personnel discovered a package at the sort center in Indianapolis, Indiana that was emitting smoke / smoldering. The shipment was offered to FEDEX in Houston, TX (IAH) and was transported by air to Indianapolis. The package contained a Dell laptop. |
| 08/01/18 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | During SkyWest Airline's flight 5654, from Helena, MT (HLN) to Salt Lake City, UT (SLC) a passenger reported that her cellphone (an Apple iPhone 6) was emitting smoke and generating heat. The passenger detected the smell of smoke and heat from the phone, |
| 07/30/18 | UPS | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | UPS personnel discovered a package at the UPS Hong Kong facility to be emitting smoke. The package contained 10 power banks weighing a total of approximately five pounds. The investigation determined that only one of the power banks went into thermal runaway and the other nine were not damaged. There were no reported injuries or damage to the facility. |
| 07/28/18 | United Airlines | N/A | Other Device Types | During baggage check-in, United Airlines personnel informed a passenger that he needed to remove the lithium-ion battery from his Smart Bag prior to acceptance. While the passenger was attempting to remove the battery from the bag, it began to arc and smoke. The passenger brought the bag outside of the terminal, removed the contents and a fire extinguisher was used to extinguish the bag. The customer obtained another bag and checked in for the flight. No injuries or further damage was reported. The manufacturer was "Away Travel" (www.awaytravel.com). The bag was 2 years old and was powered by a 37 WH battery. |

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| 07/25/18 | FEDEX | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | During package transfer in Indianapolis, IN, (IND), a package containing one undeclared lithium-ion battery was run over by a tug causing it to smoke and smolder. The battery was for a Ring Doorbell, 3.65V, 6040 mAh, 22.04 Wh. The package was placed in a salvage drum. There were no reported injuries to people or damage to property. |
| 07/23/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During cabin cleaning of a business class seat of a Boeing 767, a powered seat was reclined and crushed a battery pack/power pack that was apparently dropped there by a passenger on a previous flight. The battery pack caught fire and was extinguished by maintenance personnel. The seat was removed and replaced. No injuries or further damage was reported. |
| 07/21/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During loading of flight 4695 from Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL) to Dallas, TX (DAL) a bag was removed from a baggage cart and was found to be smoking and caught fire prior to being loaded on the aircraft. The checked bag contained a portable battery pack/power pack, which appeared to go into thermal runaway and burned the smaller bag it was in, as well as the contents and the duffel bag itself. There was nothing plugged into the unit and it was not protected in any way inside of the bag, i.e., no protection against external short-circuiting. No injuries or other damage was reported. |
| 07/10/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing lithium-ion batteries was damaged during the sort process at Memphis, TN sort facility, i.e., punctured during the sort process. Shortly after, it began emitting smoke and was placed in a salvage drum. When an attempt was made to identify the specific contents, the batteries were still arcing and it was deemed unsafe to proceed with further inspection of the package. |
| 06/24/18 | Lufthansa | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight LH489 from San Jose, CA (SJC) to Frankfurt, Germany (FRA), was enroute when a passenger's power bank of a passenger suffered a thermal runaway and ignited. Cabin crew quickly extinguished the flames, cooled the power bank down and secured it while the flight crew continued the flight to Frankfurt, where the aircraft landed on schedule. |

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| 06/22/18 | DHL | Cargo | Cell Phone | Shipment seized by US Customs at DHL JFK gateway and found to contain 25 repaired cell phones. One of the handsets/phones had begun smoking and was melted due to heat. Shipment had lithium battery handling label (UN3481) and statement on air waybill "Lithium Ion Batteries in compliance with Section II of PI967." |
| 06/16/18 | Emirates Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | "7050 loosely packaged used batteries from iPhone 6, iPhone 6 Plus, iPhone 6S, iPhone 6S Plus, and Note 5, were shipped in a fiberboard boxes from Dallas, TX (DFW) to Dubai, UAE (DXB) on Emirates flight 222 on June 14, 2018 and transferred to flight 123 on 15 June , 2018 from DXB to Istanbul, Turkey (IST). |
| 06/14/18 | WestJet Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On WestJet flight 113 from Calgary, Canada (YYC) to Vancouver, Canada (YVR), a passenger's checked bag containing 2 spare lithium-ion batteries in a non-powered charging device caught fire in-flight. The crew received an aft cargo smoke indication and discharged one cargo fire bottle, declared an emergency and returned to Calgary, Canada. The suspect bag was the only bag damaged as it was isolated from other baggage. No injuries or other damage were reported. |
| 06/08/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing a shipment of 3.9v batteries fell from a cart, was run over and caught on fire. The only damage was to the contents of the box. |
| 05/21/18 | UPS | Cargo | Other Device Types | A package containing a lithium-ion battery powered scooter caught fire at the UPS facility in Carlisle, PA. The scooter was destroyed by the fire. No injuries or additional damage was reported. |
| 05/18/18 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 426 during taxi-out, a passenger was using a charger/power pack to charge a cell phone. A pillow was on top of the device and the device began to overheat and emit smoke. The device was put into a containment bag and the flight returned to the gate. Investigation is ongoing. |
| 05/11/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | In Cleveland, OH (CLE), a passenger's portable charger/power bank overheated & emitted a burning electrical odor as aircraft taxied to runway. The Flight Attendant FA placed the device in a containment bag and the aircraft returned to the gate. CLE Station Supervisor took possession of the containment bag and stored in DG cabinet. |

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| 05/10/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A gate checked bag for a passenger was discovered smoking in the connecting bag staging area where it was stored in preparation for its connecting flight. The bag had flown from Columbus, OH (CMH) to Atlanta, GA (ATL) on Delta flight 1646 and was prepared to fly to LOS Angeles (LAX) on flight 54 when it was discovered. The bag was not loaded on the connecting flight. Ten (10) loose lithium ion laptop computer batteries were improperly packed in the bag with their terminals unprotected resulting in two (2) of the batteries shorting out producing a dangerous evolution of heat. |
| 05/09/18 | Allegiant Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Flight 318 from Los Angeles (LAX) to Springfield, MO (SGF) returned to the gate at LAX due to a vape device inside of a passengers carry-on bag caught fire. The bag was burned as well as the carpet of the aircraft. A fire extinguisher was used to put the fire out. No injuries were reported. |
| 05/05/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A Vape Pen that appears to have gone into Thermal Runaway while at San Diego International Airport. No additional info at this time. |
| 04/27/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A checked bag in the baggage sort room was emitting smoke. It contained four 3.7v lithium-ion batteries in a charging device. One or more of the batteries went into thermal runaway and burned the bag significantly. The spare batteries were for a vape device/E-cigarette. |
| 04/19/18 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | At Kansas City, KS (MCI) airport, a checked bag caught fire in the baggage sort room after being place on the outbound baggage belt. Bag room personnel extinguished the fire. The bag contained a battery-charging device with lithium ion batteries inserted. |
| 04/10/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On flight 2981, from Seattle, WA (SEA) to Salt Lake City, UT (SLC), during approach a passenger's iPhone 6S started to spark/smoke. The phone was not charging, the passenger was playing on phone. iPhone 6s started to spark/smoke he took it to the Flight Attendants in the back. During the process, the customer burned his hand. He refused medical attention. Flight Attendants placed in fire containment bag with water and then in lavatory sink. The phone was returned to the customer. No injuries to crew. |

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

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| 04/07/18 | United Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | On flight 90, from Newark, NJ (EWR) to Tel Aviv, Israel (TLV), a passengers' iPad became wedged in their seat, became very hot and began to emit smoke. It was placed in a containment bag. No injuries or damage were reported. |
| 04/04/18 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | A passenger spilled water on a laptop causing it to smoke and overheat. Flight attendant placed laptop in a containment bag. No injuries or damage to the aircraft were reported. |
| 03/17/18 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 1506 from Houston, TX (IAH) to Havana, Cuba (HAV), a customer's power pack in his backpack overheated, exploded and caught fire. The passenger threw it into the aisle where it was extinguished and then then placed into a containment bag by the flight attendant. No injuries or damage were reported. |
| 03/12/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On flight 40 from Sydney, Australia (SYD) to Los Angeles (LAX), a passenger's phone became wedged in his seat and began to smoke. The passenger was moved to another seat while the flight attendant removed the phone and placed it in a containment bag. The flight landed without incident. No injuries or damage reported. |

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| 03/12/18 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | While loading baggage on SkyWest flight 4449 in Salt Lake City, UT (SLC) the ground crew smelled a burning electrical smell and notified the pilot and the Tower. The pilot had all of the baggage removed from the aircraft and identified source to a piece of checked baggage. The bag was opened and one of two pairs of Lithium-ion battery heated socks, which had burned, were discovered. The investigation revealed that the socks have a slide switch, which allows the unit to be on High or Low, and if the switch is in the middle, it is OFF. No guard or safety switch to prevent accidental activation. There were two (2) pairs of socks. Each sock has its own battery, for a total of four batteries. One of the batteries was either in the ON position or had a runaway. The switch position cannot be determined on the burned battery. The next battery was melted to the first battery and the sock material. That battery was in the OFF position. The last two batteries were not affected. The brand of the socks is: Flambeau www.flambeauoutdoors.com USA/Canada and Europe 15981 Valplast Road Middlefield, OH 44062 1-800-232- 3474 Battery Info: Freerein 3.7V Li-ion battery System Model Number FR05, Ref: 2400mAh Input 5V-650mA Output High 5V-1A Low 4.5V – 1A |
| 03/01/18 | Allegiant Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A bag began to emit smoke and catch fire after being place on the carousel in baggage claim at Harrisburg, PA (MDT). Emergency services were dispatched. A passenger realized it was his suitcase and removed the bag from the carousel and took it outside of the terminal, where the flames burned out. The cause of the fire appeared to be from three lithium batteries, as they were still smoldering when emergency services arrived on scene. The passenger indicated the batteries were Samsung rechargeable batteries used for his vape device. |
| 02/14/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Cell Phone | A package containing a cell phone was seen emitting smoke while on the conveyor system at the Memphis sort facility. The fiberboard box was punctured by the sort system and appears to have damaged the phone causing it to go into thermal runaway. |

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| 02/13/18 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During boarding a power bank began to smoke while sitting in the passenger's jacket pocket, which had been placed in the empty seat next to his. The power bank was charged the night before the flight and never had other devices attached to it. The passenger stated the power bank was the only item inside his jacket pocket. There were no flames associated with the overheating battery. |
| 02/03/18 | Frontier Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Flight 1883, en route from Orlando, FL (MCO) to Phoenix, AZ (PHX), reported smoke in the cabin. The flight diverted to Tampa, FL (TPA) where it landed without incident. A passenger's cell phone and power pack was smoking and the case was hot and disfigured. The passenger threw the phone into the aisle and another passenger picked it up and brought it to the lavatory and placed it in the sink and ran water over it then covered it in ice. Upon arrival at the gate, the fire department removed the faulty cell phone and its associated defective charger. After the incident, follow-up interviews with Flight Attendants indicated no fire occurred, only smoke. In addition, follow up correspondence/reports from the Tampa Bay Fire Rescue, indicated 3 individuals were attended to, 2 with minor burns, 1 with respiratory issue. Some reports of nausea and headaches by others. No damage to the aircraft was reported. |
| 01/30/18 | N/A | N/A | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A lithium battery in a vaping/e-cigarette device exploded in a passenger's carry-on bag during x-ray screening at the Denver, CO (DEN) south Security Screening Checkpoint. The checkpoint was evacuated by TSA. No injuries reported. |
| 01/30/18 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package containing three batteries was reported as burned prior to loading at the sort facility in Memphis, TN. Fire Services responded and extinguished the fire. Damage was limited to the package and its contents. |

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| 01/14/18 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | During flight, the passenger at Seat 6F notified the flight crew that while his cell phone was plugged into the USB outlet, it became very warm and started bulging. The device was not on fire or smoking; however, flight crew put the device in the Battery Containment Bag (BCB) and secured the BCB in the Aft Lav. The crew reported the outlet as being loose/broken to maintenance and it was replaced. It was not determined if the outlet was the cause of the overheating of the cell phone. |
| 01/14/18 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger on flight 558 operating from Portland, OR (PDX) to Chicago, IL (ORD) had a battery/power pack that was overheating, got hot and started to smoke. The item was placed in a thermal containment bag. No further information available. |
| 01/03/18 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | At CVG (Cincinnati, OH) a passenger inadvertently dropped a laptop at the security checkpoint. After they arrived at their departure gate the laptop was emitting smoke and it was becoming excessively hot. The passenger removed the battery from the laptop and gave it to the gate agent who put it outside in a bucket of sand. |
| 12/30/17 | United Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | At BOS (Boston, MA) a bag on the arriving baggage carousel began to burn. The contents were removed and an e-cigarette was found to be the cause. |
| 12/22/17 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At SDF, (Louisville, KY) a package containing solar bank chargers with lithium ion batteries, UN 3480, installed was discovered on fire during the loading process. |
| 12/20/17 | ABX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At SEA (Seattle, WA) a package containing 120 suspected Lithium Ion batteries for Vape devices was discovered by DHL employees to be emitting a burning smell. The shipment was tendered in a fiberboard box that had a lithium battery handling label affixed to the. The box was removed from commerce, opened by DHL, and subsequently opened. Numerous battery were found to be damaged or charred. It is not clear when or where the incident occurred as it was discovered after two flights at its final destination airport. After further investigation it was determined that one battery in the box had gone into thermal runaway and the packaging of the other batteries was charred. |

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| 12/16/17 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On flight 121 from BCN (Barcelona, Spain) to EWR (Newark, NJ) a passenger's iPhone fell into his seat and was subsequently crushed when the seat was electronically reclined. The phone caught fire and was then retrieved and placed in a containment bag. The flight proceeded to EWR without further incident. |
| 11/30/17 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the Memphis sort facility a package containing an unknown item containing rechargeable lithium batteries was hung up, dragged by a conveyor belt system, and caught fire. The units inside the package were severely damage. |
| 11/30/17 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger on flight 827 from OAK (Oakland, CA) to HNL (Honolulu, HI) ran off the aircraft during the boarding process and dumped her purse in the boarding bridge because a hole had burned through it. The Captain assisted her in putting out the fire and found her e-cigarette had caught fire. The captain removed the lithium battery from the unit and asked if she had any spares. The passenger said she had one more in her carry-on and two more in her checked bag. The captain ordered them removed from the checked bag and the carry-on. The batteries were turned over to the Alaska Airlines manager on duty. The aircraft departed without any further incident |
| 11/10/17 | N/A | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | While in line at the TSA checkpoint a passenger's backpack started emitting smoke. The passenger put the bag on the floor and removed a camera bag with the smoldering device inside of it. A lithium polymer 2500 mAH battery was inside the camera bag. |
| 10/23/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight 766 (B737-800), routing PHX-SDF, returned to gate after a power pack in a passenger bag began to smoke. The power pack was placed in a containment bag. The containment bag was removed from the aircraft and given to the airline manager on duty. The aircraft departed PHX without further incident. The power pack was being charged in the gate area prior to the passenger boarding the aircraft. After further inspection, the device had visible signs of overheating and melted plastic. |

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| 10/04/17 | Virgin America | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight 1260 LAS (Las Vegas, NV) to JFK (New York, NY) reported that an e-cig spare battery in a backpack began smoking in the cabin in flight. The crew placed the E-cigarette in a fire containment bag and the battery extinguished. |
| 10/02/17 | UPS | Cargo | Cell Phone | A package containing several iPhones fell out of a container and was subsequently run over and caused one or more of the lithium-ion batteries to go into thermal runaway. The phones appeared to be packaged and prepared properly for air transportation. |
| 09/28/17 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During the boarding process of flight 5433 from DEN (Denver, CO) to CLT (Charlotte, NC) a passenger's carry-on bag containing four lithium-ion batteries in a charging unit caught fire on the boarding bridge. The fire department responded and extinguished |
| 09/08/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Flight 2178 from Detroit-Wayne County Airport (DTW) to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (PHL), was taxiing on the ground in DTW when a passenger's laptop began smoking, releasing an unknown material into the air. The aircraft returned to the gate where the device was removed. The passenger remained on board and continued with the flight. The subsequent investigation revealed that the computer was not holding a charge very well and boarding the aircraft, the passenger plugged in the computer. As they began to taxi away from the gate, the laptop computer was placed on top of the laptop bag that was on the floor, but left it plugged-in. Soon after taxi-out, a white haze and electrical smell was detected and flight attendants required Vera to unplug her laptop and have it removed from the aircraft. |
| 09/08/17 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | A package containing UN 3090 Lithium Metal Batteries, was emitting flames/sparks as it was sitting on a conveyor belt. The package was quarantined pending further investigation. |
| 09/01/17 | Southwest Airlines | N/A | Laptop | A checked bag fell off a bag cart in CMH (Columbus, OH) and subsequently dragged by the bag cart while in route to the baggage claim area. Upon arrival at the baggage claim area, a laptop in the bag exploded and the bag began to burn. The fire was extinguished. |

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| 08/21/17 | American Airlines | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's checked bag was found to be emitting smoke as it came down the baggage belt at LAX (Los Angeles, CA). Upon opening the bag it was determined that spare li-ion batteries for an e-cigarette inside of a charging unit were the source of the smoke. |
| 08/21/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight 296 Shanghai to Tokyo (PVG -NRT), during cruise at FL370, a flight attendant notified the pilot that there was a fire in the mid cabin and that the cabin was filled with smoke. A battery charger device was found to be the source of the smoke and it was secured in the battery containment bag. Flight continued to NRT without further incident. No injuries to customers or crew. |
| 08/18/17 | UPS | Cargo | Cell Phone | A package was found to be warm to the touch and smelling of smoke. Inside the package was 20 cell phones, all packaged individually in the manufacturer's box with a battery and other accessories. When the package was opened, UPS personnel discovered a battery for 1 of 20 cell phones had heated to the point of charring the packaging and had begun to burn two other cell phone boxes. |
| 07/28/17 | Skywest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | SkyWest Airlines reported that an E-cigarette spare battery overheated onboard a flight from SLC-LAX. The passenger had three spare Lithium Ion batteries in his carry on along with his e-cigarette. One of the spare batteries started smoking and the passenger alerted the Flight Attendant. The Flight Attendant placed the smoking battery into an ice bucket ice and water. The battery was placed into a fire bag and the flight continued on to LAX without further incident. |
| 07/27/17 | Sun Country Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's portable charging device (Lithium Ion Battery) began to smoke on a flight from MSP (Minneapolis, MN) to LAX (Los Angeles, CA). The incident occurred an estimated 35 minutes from LAX. No reported injuries. A burning smell was detected but there was no reported fire |

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| 07/22/17 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | United Airlines Flight 1536, while taxiing to the gate after landing from San Francisco, California to (SFO) to Jackson, Wyoming (JAC), declared an emergency due to a lithium-ion battery related incident in the aircraft cabin. A sunglass case containing a small spare lithium battery for a personal headlamp and a set of keys began to smolder. The flight attendant put the battery in a container of ice which stopped the smoldering of the battery. |
| 07/22/17 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | The shipment was found in a FEDEX ULD emitting smoke. The box was removed from the ULD, placed in a steel salvage drum & removed from the building. Upon opening the unmarked, labeled box, several lithium ion battery chargers wrapped in clothing were found. There are visible char markings on the chargers themselves and the retail boxes they were in. Four of the chargers were left in the on position and FEDEX personnel could not turn them to the off position. The FAA was notified, and the freight was held pending an FAA inspection. |
| 07/17/17 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On AALA flight 805 to CUN a passenger Thomas Owen's cell phone portable external battery caught fire. The device was confiscated by the flight attendant and then given to the fire department at the Philadelphia airport. No further information is available for this event. |
| 07/02/17 | Allegiant Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On July 2, 2017, Allegiant Flight #1908 traveling from Destin, FL (VPS) to Oklahoma City, OK (OKC) diverted into Dallas Fort-Worth Airport (DFW) at 2210CST due to a lithium-ion battery related incident in the aircraft cabin. A passenger seated in 21E had been charging an iPad to watch movies during flight with a "Vivitar" lithium-ion battery powered charging station (power bank) when it began to emit a burning electrical smell, smolder and become hot to the touch. The PAX alerted inflight crewmembers to the situation. The Lead Flight Attendant obtained the device and placed it into an ice bin, notified Flight Crew and continued to monitor its status. The Flight Crew coordinated a diversion into the nearest most suitable airport to get the airplane on the ground for removal of unit. At no point during the remainder of the flight, did the power banks condition begin to escalate or catch on fire. Dallas-Fort Worth ARFF boarded the aircraft after landing, took the item into their possession and interviewed the owner of the power bank |

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| 06/22/17 | Air France | Passenger | Laptop | Air France reported flight 090 / 22JUN was on decent to Miami International Airport when cockpit crew reported smoke. Cockpit crew declared an emergency and the aircraft landed safely. Fire Department boarded the aircraft while all passengers were still onboard and removed an I-pad from seat 5E. Passenger/Owner of I-PAD seated in 5E stated that the I-Pad slipped through the left side of the seat and was crushed against the motorized seat causing smoke in the cabin. Cabin Crew used 2 fire extinguisher to stop the smoke. |
| 06/03/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Flight 6008 from Long Beach (LGB) to Denver (DEN) an E-cigarette battery starting smoking while not in use, the battery was being carried in the clothing (pocket) of a passenger. The device was a Aspire e-cigarette, batteries (labeled MXJO 3000mAh 3.7V IMR 18650). Investigation is ongoing. |
| 06/02/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 2323 from Tampa (TPA) to Atlanta (ATL) during the cargo loading process a bag was emitting smoke. Two li-ion batteries were removed from the bag. One of the batteries had shorted and the wire in the bag was smoldering. No injuries were reported. |
| 05/30/17 | JetBlue Airways | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flt 915 from New York (JFK) to San Francisco (SFO) a battery in a passenger's backpack overheated and caused the backpack to melt and burn a hole in the side of it. The flight diverted to Grand Rapids (GRR). The fire department responded and took possession of the battery which is a LG HG2 18650. No injuries were reported. |
| 05/30/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | On flight 1519 from Baltimore (BWI) to Fort Meyers (RSW) a li-ion battery in a passenger's carry-on bag overheated. The passenger gave the battery to the flight attendant and it was placed in a containment bag and cooled with water. The unprotected battery was inside of a smaller bag which also contained jewelry and was charred. |

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| 05/25/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | While flight DL1476 from Detroit (DTW) to Minneapolis (MSP) was taxiing out at DTW a lithium-ion power pack issued to a crew member overheated. The battery was a Power Core+ 26800 manufactured by Anker Technology Co. Limited. The battery capacity was marked as 96.48Wh. The model number was A1372. A containment bag was used and water poured on device. No fire extinguishers used. Aircraft returned to gate and off-loaded device and bag and departed again. No injuries to passengers or crew. |
| 05/14/17 | N/A | N/A | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Information, including video footage, from the Seattle Airport Authority and witness statements show an individual's E-cigarette exploding, resulting in burning of his shirt and backpack. An investigation of this incident is ongoing. |
| 05/08/17 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | At the San Francisco (SFO) airport, during security screening TSA discovered a battery pack in a customers bag that had overheated. The unit expanded so much that it opened. It was removed from the customer's bag and held at the SFO airport. |
| 05/02/17 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | A shipment of 13 boxes of laptops in a cargo facility was inadvertently bumped resulting in one box falling to the ground. Upon impact, the box began to smoke and apparently produced a dangerous evolution of heat. The box and the laptop inside were charred and partially melted. The box contained a laptop computer with a 94 watt-hour lithium-ion battery installed in it. |
| 04/19/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Passenger on Southwest flight number 4639 from Columbus, OH to Chicago, IL (MDW) reported to a flight attendant that there was smoke coming from her purse. Passenger was carrying an e-cigarette/vaping device. The flight attendant put the e-cigarette/vaping device. The flight attendant put the e-cigarette/vaping device and two spare lithium ion batteries into a fire safe bag to extinguish the smoke. |
| 04/13/17 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | FEDEX reported that a shipment containing lithium batteries was inadvertently dragged by a dolly until its contents exploded. Investigation is ongoing. |

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

As of March 25, 2022, there have been 357 aviation related incidents involving lithium batteries carried as cargo or baggage recorded since January 23, 2006. **Note:** These are events that the FAA is aware of and should not be considered a complete listing of all such incidents. The incident summaries included here are intended to be brief and objective. They do not represent all information the FAA has collected, nor do they include all investigative or enforcement action taken. This list does not include three major accidents where lithium battery cargo shipments were implicated but not proven to be the source of the fire: An Asiana Airlines 747 near South Korea on July 28, 2011, a UPS 747 on September 3, 2010 and a UPS DC-8 in Philadelphia, PA on February 7, 2006.

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|------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|---|
| 04/11/17 | Frontier Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | While transferring bags at Raleigh Durham, NC (RDU) a ramp employee noticed smoke coming from a bag. It was found to be lithium ion battery in a camera. |
| 04/09/17 | N/A | N/A | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger was at Hudson News convenience store, near gate "D" in LAS airport prior to boarding a flight. Left front pocket exploded and fire erupted. Passenger was burned and hospitalized with burns to his left thigh and left hand. |
| 04/09/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger traveling on Southwest Airlines on Flight 1746 from Las Vegas, NV (LAS) to Pittsburgh, PA (PIT) presented a smoking battery charger to flight attendants (F/A). The F/A prepared a containment bag with cans of water and placed the device within. |
| 04/04/17 | ExpressJet Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A gate checked bag containing two rechargeable drill batteries shorted or arced during the loading of ExpressJet (ASOA) flight number 4077 dba United Express (CLE-IAH). According to preliminary information, a gate checked carry-on suitcase contained the t |
| 03/30/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | On Southwest flt 1761 from Columbus, OH (CMH)-Ft Lauderdale, FL (FLL), prior to landing at Ft. Lauderdale, a passenger informed a flight attendant that their computer was smoking, smelled like burning plastic and was extremely hot to the touch. The passenger stated that they spilled a drink on the laptop earlier in the flight. There were no visible flames, explosion, charring, or melting of the laptop. The Flight Attendant took the laptop to aft galley and utilized the halon extinguisher followed by cans of water for cooling. |
| 02/27/17 | American Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | On AA Flight 133 from JFK to LAX a passenger seated in the first class cabin was charging an iPhone and the battery overheated. The flight attendant placed the device in a coffee pot. No diversion required, no aircraft damage and the only injury was to the passengers hand. |

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| 02/19/17 | Air China | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | An Air China Airbus A330-200 (flight 165) on a flight from Beijing (China) to Melbourne, VI (Australia), was approximately 2 hours into the flight when the noise cancelling headphones of a sleeping passenger started to overheat. The passenger was awakened by the heat of the headphones on her face. The headphones slid down around her neck and caused minor burns to her face and neck. The headphones were getting hotter and when they began sparking and melting, she threw the headphones onto the cabin floor. Cabin crew poured water over the headset cooling the device down. The headset was subsequently put into a safe container. The aircraft continued the flight to Melbourne for a safe landing approximately 10 hours later. |
| 02/18/17 | Spring Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A Spring Airlines Airbus A320-200, flight 9C-8617 from Harbin (China) to Nagoya (Japan), was en route at FL340 about 50nm east/northeast of Shenyang (China) when passengers observed a fire in one of the overhead bins. Cabin crew discharged fire extinguishers into the overhead bin and submerged a passenger's charger (power bank) and smartphone, which had caught fire, into a water container. The flight crew initiated a diversion into Shenyang, where the aircraft landed safely about 23 minutes later. Emergency services were not called as the cabin crew had brought the situation fully under control by cooling down the charger/batteries. |
| 02/04/17 | American Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | American Airlines Ground crew at Dallas Fort Worth, TX noticed smoke coming from a freight cart. DFW Fire Rescue called and extinguished the fire. US Postal Inspectors are investigating as it was contained in US Mail. Item has been reported as a Samsung phone (not confirmed, unknown model or version). No damage to the aircraft or injuries reported. |
| 01/22/17 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During flight a passenger gave a lithium-ion battery pack/charger to the flight attendant stating that it was smoking and very hot. The flight attendant submerged the unit in ice water to cool it down. The flight continued without any further incident. |

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| 01/16/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During the flight a passenger brought a battery charger to the galley that had over heated and began to smoke. The charge continued smoking, even after a Halon fire extinguisher had been deployed and depleted. Water was then poured into a containment bag with the charger submerged in the bag. |
| 01/15/17 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | A passenger's iPhone 7 broke as it became wedged in the seat while he was attempting to bring the seat to an upright position, the phone began emitting white smoke. The passenger threw the phone in the aisle and the lead flight attendant poured water over it while a containment bag was retrieved. |
| 01/14/17 | N/A | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | A portable rechargeable cell phone battery pack contained inside a carry-on bag (backpack) was observed emitting smoke at security checkpoint. Authorities reported the bag contained multiple cell phones and batteries packs. There was extensive smoke and heat damage to the backpack. |
| 12/15/16 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | American Airlines flight 1129, which was en route from Dallas-Fort Worth, TX to Indianapolis IN, diverted to Little Rock, AR, after a passenger observed that his e-cigarette had overheated and was emitting smoke. The cabin crew used fire extinguishers to extinguish the e-cigarette. |
| 12/11/16 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Southwest Airlines flight 3637 from Fort Lauderdale, FL (FLL) to Dallas, TX (DAL) diverted to New Orleans, LA (MSY) due to a lithium battery charging device melting and emitting a burning electrical odor. Flight attendant noticed a burning/electrical smell in the cabin. The passenger sitting in 1C advised that she believes it to be her battery charger. The flight attendant took the device to the forward galley to monitor. Once the aircraft landed in MSY the crew gave the device to local station personnel for quarantine. |
| 12/03/16 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | While en route from Honolulu, HI to Atlanta, GA a fire was discovered in an overhead bin near seat 3J. The crew extinguished the flames, which were coming from a laptop. Three halon type fire extinguishers and two water type fire extinguishers were used. |

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| 11/27/16 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | ASAA flight 850, from Kona, HI to Seattle, WA diverted to Honolulu, HI as a precautionary measure due to a company issued battery powered mobile Point of Sale (POS) device and iPhone 6 that experienced excessive heating. The inflight mobile POS device was exposed to a liquid hand sanitizer in the galley compartment. The device would not turn on and the flight attendant (F/A) reported the device was hot and continued to get hotter. The F/A placed the device in a thermal battery containment bag. The flight did not declare an emergency but requested that the fire department meet the flight when it arrived and take possession of the containment bag. The iPhone and battery powered POS device showed no visible signs of excessive heating or thermal runaway. |
| 11/05/16 | N/A | N/A | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's backpack containing an e-cigarette battery installed in charger experienced thermal runaway, emitted smoked and caught fire in the food court area of Seattle international Airport (SEA). |
| 10/30/16 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | At Ketchikan, AK (KTN) airport, during boarding of Alaska Airlines flight 67, a passenger's backpack containing an e-cigarette caught fire. The passenger dumped contents on the floor and crew used fire extinguishers to put out the fire. No injuries reported. Scorch marks to carpet of the aircraft were the result of the fire. |
| 10/23/16 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Ramp personnel observed smoke emitting from a passenger's bag while loading baggage on flight 1712. Ramp personnel pulled and opened the bag and called Seattle FD. They responded and applied approximately 4 gallons of water on the bag. It was determined to contain two (2) Lithium Batteries of undetermined size, which experienced thermal runaway while connected to a charger inside a passenger's checked bag. |
| 09/24/16 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Flight 138 en route from Detroit, MI to Amsterdam (Netherlands) was about 60nm east of Manchester (UK) when the crew reported smoke in the cabin. The aircraft diverted to Manchester, UK. Maintenance crews located a Samsung tablet computer, which suffered a thermal runaway, stuck beneath a seat. It is presumed the tablet was lost by a passenger on the previous sectors flown by the aircraft. |

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| 09/23/16 | Indigo | Passenger | Cell Phone | An Indigo Airbus performing flight from Singapore to Chennai (India) was descending towards Chennai when a passenger noticed smoke coming from the overhead bin near seat row 23. Cabin crew extinguished the flames with a fire extinguisher and doused the phone with water before isolating it in a container. The crew identified a Galaxy Note 2 smartphone had overheated. The aircraft landed safely at Chennai. India's DGCA confirmed a smartphone Lithium Battery had suffered a thermal runaway. The occurrence is being investigated. |
| 09/07/16 | N/A | N/A | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | As a passenger was entering the baggage claim area of DAL airport an E-cigarette in her purse exploded and burned the purse, some of its contents and charred her shirt. Witnesses stated there were small projectiles, which were on fire exiting her purse. They were extinguished by people standing at the baggage claim area waiting for their bags. |
| 09/03/16 | Spirit Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Spirit Airline employee was sorting bags and noticed one bag was smoking. The employee made immediate notification to his management, who in turn notified Denver Police (DPD) and TSA. DPD was in the area and first to respond and determined it was an e-cig |
| 08/22/16 | SkyMark | Passenger | Cell Phone | A rechargeable battery of a smartphone in a carry-on baggage located under the seat of a passenger of flight Skymark SKY/BC732 from New Chitose to Tokyo/Haneda, operated by a Boeing 737-86N, ignited and smoked just after take-off at 00:19 JST. The fire was immediately extinguished by the cabin crew. Two crew members suffered minor burn on their right arm or left hand fingers. |
| 08/13/16 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | UAL1102, B739, EWR-SJU, reported a fire on board when a checked bag in the cargo hold area caught fire. Aircraft landed on runway 22L at SJU where the fire department responded and the cargo hold fire bottle was deployed. Taxied to the ramp with all passengers on board. 8/13 1702z. This was originally reported as an E-cigarette but it was determined to be 2 re-chargeable li-ion batteries in their charging unit. |

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| 08/05/16 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger's personal lithium battery charging device caught fire prior to takeoff (during pushback) in a seat pocket DL flight 949 in Newark, NJ (EWR) destined to Detroit MI (DTW). The device was taken by a passenger to the aft lavatory sink to extinguish. Subsequently, the aft lavatory smoke detector activated and alerted the crew. The device was removed from the aircraft and the EWR Hazardous Materials Field Office is further investigating. Preliminary indications reveal the device is described as a "Pink Moon Portable Power Charger". The flight was delayed 34 minutes with no damage to the aircraft/aft lavatory. There was discoloration of the seat pocket due to the heat generated from the device. |
| 08/02/16 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | At MDW airport during boarding a passenger carrying a backpack advised a flight attendant that the bag was smoking. The bag was removed from the aircraft and the Chicago Fire Department responded, extinguished the fire and determined that the tablet, RCA Model RCT6773W22 powered by a 7.5 watt hour battery overheated in the passenger's backpack. |
| 07/21/16 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | FEDEX reported that a package was found smoking in the sort facility in Memphis, TN. The package was removed from the sort, and once removed it burst into flames. The fire was extinguished, and no injuries or damage was reported. The shipper is from the Santo Domingo and the package was being shipped to Calif. The paperwork for the shipment reflected spare cell phone parts. FDEA reported that the package contain several lithium ion batteries. The package was heavily damaged, so it was unknown if a handling label was on the package |
| 07/15/16 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | AA flt from DTW-DFW diverted to Wichita Falls, TX due to a li-ion battery/power pack emitting fumes suspected of entering thermal runaway. |
| 07/06/16 | United Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Passenger's cell phone battery exploded in flight. Fire extinguished by crew. |
| 06/17/16 | American Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passenger's checked bag containing an E-cigarette, charger and two spare 3.7 volt lithium ion batteries was smoking as it was offloaded from an American Airlines flight in Chicago, IL. Fire was extinguished with water. |

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| 06/16/16 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | Passenger had checked a bag, which contained a lithium battery powered vaporizer with batteries installed as well as a charger attached to a spare battery. Flammable aerosol hairsprays and other toiletries were also contained within the bag. During screening, a TSA agent noticed the passenger's bag smoking and extinguished the fire. The Port of Seattle Fire department responded, ensured the fire was completely extinguished, and determined the spare lithium battery in the checked bag was the cause. |
| 06/14/16 | Spirit Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | During boarding a passenger was carrying a backpack when another passenger noticed the fire. The plane was offloaded immediately. The DEN Fire Department responded, extinguished the fire and determined the e-cigarette in the carry-on bag (backpack) was the cause. The aircraft was cleared, cleaned and put back in service. The passenger chose to take the remains of the backpack with him. |
| 06/10/16 | Spirit Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Flt 765 from San Jose Costa Rica to Fort Lauderdale, E-cigarette began to smoke in a passengers backpack on seat. Fire extinguished with a fire extinguisher and then the E-cigarette was submerged in water. Flight continued and landed in FLL without further issues. |
| 05/15/16 | Qantas Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) reported about two hours prior to estimated landing in Dallas Ft. Worth a passenger alerted cabin crew to smoke in the cabin, the flight attendants started their basic fire drill, two flight attendants proceeded to the source of the smoke with fire extinguishers, the service manager alerted flight crew and all cabin crew to the presence of smoke. The source of smoke was located at seat 19F in Zone F at the upper deck. The crew removed the seat cushions and covers from seat 19F, while the cabin manager switched off all electric supplies to the center column of seats. After further dismantling of the seat cabin crew found a crushed personal electronic device (PED) wedged tightly into the seat's mechanism and assessed the PED contained a Lithium battery. The battery, at that time, was no longer emitting smoke; however a strong acrid smell remained in the cabin. The crew maneuvered the seat and freed the PED, then put the PED into a jug of water, which was further put into a metal box and was being monitored for the remainder of the flight. |

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| 05/06/16 | V Air | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A V Air Airbus A321-200, registration B-22610 performing flight ZV-252 from Taipei (Taiwan) to Tokyo Haneda (Japan) with 161 people on board, had just reached cruise level 350 about 150nm northeast of Taipei when smoke emanated from a battery carried by a passenger prompting the crew to return to Taipei where the aircraft landed safely on runway 23L about 30 minutes later. Taiwan's ASC reported the smoke was caused by a non-genuine power bank carried by a passenger in the carry-on luggage that burned out. The ASC opened an investigation into the occurrence and dispatched investigators on site. Taiwan's Civil Aviation Authority reported the power bank was a lithium type power bank made in China. Cabin crew quickly cooled the battery down and put it into a bucket of cold water to prevent a further overheating. |
| 04/03/16 | Kalitta Air | Cargo | Other Device Types | 1 box of 43 boxes in Cargo shipment of atomization devices w/ lit-ion batteries began to smoke during loading- entire shipment was removed from aircraft and brought to cargo warehouse. Fire department was called and submerged them in water. Many of the devices had lights on them indicating they were "on". |
| 03/20/16 | | Passenger | Cell Phone | Passengers phone began to burn in flight from SEA-HNL |
| 03/17/16 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | AS flt 807-Passenger's cell phone caught fire in flt. Extinguished by flt attendant. Originally reported as E-cigarette. |
| 03/16/16 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | DL flt 689- E-cigarette in passenger's carry-on caught fire during boarding process. Fire extinguished by flt attendant. |
| 02/13/16 | Korean Air | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Passenger smelled smoke and alerted the flt attendant, who discharged a fire extinguisher on the seat where the smoke/smell was coming from. Camera battery charger was lodged between 2 seats and appeared to have overheated. |

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| 01/12/16 | Hawaiian Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Hawaiian Airlines (HALA) flight 226 from Honolulu (HNL) to Maui (OGG) received an aft Cargo Fire Warning while inflight above the island of Lanai. Both fire extinguisher bottles were discharged at intervals and the aircraft landed in OGG without further incident. After the passengers deplaned, the aft cargo door was opened to discover two burnt suitcases. The source came from a soft sided duffel bag, which contained an e-cigarette (e-cig) powered by two batteries. Additional fire damage occurred to a hard sided wheeled bag. Hawaiian Airlines Director of Flight Safety, the Maui Police Department, and the FAA (HNL) Hazmat Agents conducted investigations. It was noted that the clean appearance of the inside of the battery compartment and the charred exterior indicated that the E-cigarette was activated and heated up until it dried out the cotton in it and ignited. The box style E-cigarette is believed to be an "unregulated" style, meaning it does not contain a computer chip that regulates the battery output. This style typically does not contain any safety features to prevent accidental activation. Further investigation is ongoing. |
| 01/08/16 | American Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | American Airlines flight 1647 from Miami, FL to Mexico City, Mexico reported that a customer's Apple laptop computer went into thermal runaway 1 hour after departure from MIA. The laptop was plugged into a power port and became very hot. There was the presence of a strong smell of plastic in the cabin. The laptop was taken from the customer and placed in the galley in a container. It never caught fire. Upon landing in Mexico City, the laptop was given back to the customer. |

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| 01/06/16 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | This shipment was discovered emitting smoke while loaded in a container of freight at DHL express JFK gateway , cargo bldg. 263, JFK intl airport, Jamaica NY 11430 on 1/6/2016 at 3:05 am. The package was removed from the container and from the area and opened for investigation. Inside the package, 9 vape machines were found, one of which experienced an internal issue (heat release) and began to smoke. The shipment did not catch fire. The shipment was moved outside to a safe location where it was cordoned off. Disposal arrangements will be made. This shipment was tendered under the iata pi967 section ii exception according to the statement on the airwaybill. Transportation via air was confirmed. |
| 12/27/15 | JetBlue Airways | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A passenger’s carry-on bag on a JetBlue flight departing San Juan, PR airport caught fire at the gate while boarding. The flight was deplaned and the fire was extinguished, no injuries or fatalities. Actual cause of fire was one of a total of two (2) 9 watt lithium ion batteries with unprotected terminals loosely placed within a small metal box that also contained an e-cigarette (vaporizer) and other non-hazardous items. It was apparent that the lithium ion battery experienced a thermal runaway. |
| 10/12/15 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | DL flight 304, from Montego Bay, Jamaica to Atlanta, GA received a cargo fire warning as it was preparing for takeoff. The flight crew aborted takeoff and activated the cargo compartment fire suppression system and evacuated passengers via emergency slides. 7 bags were found to have fire damage, one bag contained an e-cigarette, which overheated and caused the burning. |
| 10/12/15 | Alaska Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Alaska airlines flight 17 from Newark, NJ- Seattle, Washington diverted to Buffalo, NY when a Point of sale device/credit card reader, an iPhone 6+ inserted into a GuestLogix XPDA-IP6 (“sleeve”) , which is powered by a 3.7V 3100 mAh (11.507 Wh) li-ion battery overheated and began to burn. Flight attendant extinguished it with a fire extinguisher. |

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| 09/28/15 | Mesa Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Mesa flight 5092, from Washington Dulles-Greenville Spartanburg, SC, declared an emergency at the gate due to smoke in the cabin. Passengers evacuated at gate. Fire department extinguished a passenger carry-on bag. It contained jewelry, a kindle, numerous battery chargers and 1 lithium-ion battery for an E-cigarette. Battery was burnt beyond recognition. |
| 09/24/15 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | United flight 925 from London Heathrow – Washington Dulles, VA, the passenger in seat 29K had a Battery Pack incident in flight. A 5600mAh battery pack overheated and began to emit smoke, but there was no fire. The device was placed in water and cooled, no injury or damage were reported. |
| 09/15/15 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | The Pittsburgh, PA airport fire department responded to a report of a burning package, which was determined to be a USPS package transported from an unknown flight to the cargo facility by a Worldwide cargo runner. Significant burning and damage to the contents, which included numerous li-ion battery packs each containing 4 cells. |
| 07/10/15 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Smoke observed from package during sorting at Bangalore, India. No further information available at this time. |
| 06/17/15 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | During a Southwest flight from LAS-ALB a passenger stated he felt the e-cigarette in his pants pocket pop and he leg began to burn. When he removed the E-cigarette from his pocket he saw the battery shoot out of the device. The E-cigarette was cracked and smoking. The crew submerged the battery and device in water. The passenger had minor burns on his leg but refused medical attention upon arrival in ALB. |
| 06/10/15 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | A passengers checked bag containing an E-cigarette and two spare 3.7 volt lithium ion batteries was smoking as it was offloaded from a Southwest Airlines flight in Albuquerque, NM. One of the batteries was not protected from short circuit causing burning and smoke. |

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

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|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| 06/06/15 | Mesa Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | After landing in Houston, TX (KIAH), Mesa flight 4001 was being unloaded when a ramp agent observed smoke coming from a checked bag in the forward cargo bin. The agent removed the bag from the loading belt and sprayed it with a fire extinguisher. The IAH fire department responded and took control of the bag. The bag contained professional camera equipment with lithium-ion batteries. According to preliminary information the camera bag was initially brought aboard as a carry-on, but was allegedly checked at the gate because the flight attendant advised that there was no room in the passenger cabin. Preliminary reports also indicate that the passenger made the flight attendant aware of the contents of the bag. |
| 05/06/15 | Polar Air Cargo | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During offload of the aircraft at Leipzig, Germany, onto the belt loader one (1) of eighty (80) packages from a single shipment containing lithium batteries began to smoke. The Fire Brigade extinguished the package on the ramp. The remaining shipments were inspected and checked with a temperature entropy camera, which revealed no signs of heating. |
| 04/30/15 | UPS | N/A | Other Device Types | While loading packages into a ULD at Louisville, KY a package was emitting a burning odor. The package contained one (1) non-specification fiberboard box that contained: One (1) 7.2V/Li-ion 3400 mAh/24.5Wh "Phase One Digital Back" Battery, two (2) batteries similar in size and shape of the "Phase One Digital Back" Battery, marked with "Brian Garland Photography", but no other descriptive markings, three (3) "Phase One" 645 7.4V/2000 mAh Li-Ion. The batteries were not properly packaged and did not contain any marking, labelling or shipping papers to communicate the hazardous nature of the contents |

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| 04/25/15 | Air Wisconsin | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Upon landing at Richmond, VA (KRIC) the pilot of Air Wisconsin flight 4010 reported smoke and fire onboard the aircraft in the passenger cabin and declared an emergency. The aircraft stopped and performed an emergency evacuation of passengers and crew on the taxiway. No injuries were reported. The fire was extinguished by the flight attendant with an onboard fire extinguisher. Upon investigation by the fire department it was determined that the cause of the fire and smoke was a spare lithium battery inside of the passengers back pack , which was not in appropriate packaging, and was unprotected and mixed with loose coins |
| 03/15/15 | KLM | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | During taxi-in at the Bangkok (BKK), the flight attendants of a B777 passenger carrying aircraft became aware of a strong 'electrical smell' in the forward cabin and noticed a plume of light grey smoke coming from an overhead stowage bin above passenger seat row 5 DEF. The bin contained carry-on baggage (black zipper suitcase) holding what appeared to be a drone (quad-copter) with HD video camera equipment in possession of a professional TV broadcasting team. The suitcase contained four spare lithium ion batteries (rated 99.9Wh each) and one lithium ion battery attached to the drone. The latter had gone into a 'thermal runaway', melting a hole through the suitcase. The ensuing fire was swiftly and successfully extinguished by two flight attendants after discharging two portable BCF fire extinguishers, immediately followed by pouring approximately 5 liters of fluid over it (from mineral water bottles, coffee jugs etc.). |
| 02/13/15 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | While loading a FEDEX Express aircraft in Bend, Oregon, smoke was seen coming from a unit load device being loaded onto the aircraft. A package inside the container was smoking. This package contained undeclared hazardous materials (lithium ion batteries) having no dangerous goods markings, labels or other indicia communicating the hazardous nature of the cargo. |

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| 01/04/15 | Skywest Airlines | | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | SkyWest ramp agent observed a passenger bag to be on fire in the baggage make-up area. The fire was extinguished and the police were called. The police determined the likely cause of the fire was due to the E-cigarette vaporizer overheating and burning inside the bag. The passenger was notified of the incident upon arrival in Eugene. |
| 12/15/14 | Horizon Air | Passenger | Other Device Types | Horizon Air ramp agent found bag flaming and sparking during offload. The agent extinguished the fire in the snow. Source of the flames was from a Cautery unit, a small medical device, which uses electric current to heat the tip. |
| 12/08/14 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | DHL personnel discovered a package containing 2 re-chargeable lithium-ion batteries (undeclared) had caught fire at some point but had self-extinguished. It is not known when it happened, it was discovered at the sort facility in Ontario, CA. They were not transported by aircraft. |
| 09/18/14 | Euro Wings | Passenger | Cell Phone | Cell phone used by the crew as a POS (point of sale) device caught fire on a Eurowings Canadair CRJ-900 as it was descending towards Stuttgart, Germany. It was extinguished by the flight attendant. The crew declared an emergency reporting a cell phone had caught fire and advised they would evacuate the aircraft after landing. The airport stopped departures to accommodate the emergency. The aircraft landed safely and passengers deplaned normally. |
| 08/09/14 | JetBlue Airways | Passenger | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | JetBlue Airlines ramp agent discovered a bag emitting smoke. The bag was removed from the aircraft bin and put on the ground. A fire extinguisher was used to attempt to put the fire out without success. The contents were removed and the source of the fire was an electronic cigarette, which continued to burn after it was removed from the bag. JetBlue personnel extinguished the fire. |
| 05/27/14 | Hawaiian Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | Hawaiian Airlines ramp agent noticed a foul odor coming from a bag while loading baggage onto the aircraft. The bag, which contained a Quad Copter powered by a lithium ion battery, was removed from the aircraft bin and put on the ground as it began to burn. The bag was doused with coffee, which extinguished the fire. |

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| 04/26/14 | Fiji Airways | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | During the preflight inspection the captain of a Fiji Airways flight from Melbourne, Australia to Fiji noticed smoke coming from the cargo compartment. After further investigation it was determined that approximately 26 undeclared lithium ion batteries, u |
| 03/04/14 | UAE/CAA | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from United Arab Emirates (UAE) General Civil Aviation Authority concerning a group traveling on behalf of National Geographic with checked baggage, one bag was a plastic hard sided case containing lithium-ion batteries. The team was traveling from Washington, DC on a United Airlines flight to Dubai, UAE, where they were transferring to a Flydubai flight that was destined for Khartoum, Sudan. Ramp workers loading the Flydubai flight noted that one corner of a checked bag was hot and melting. The bag was immediately removed and the fire department was called. All other bags related to the passengers were off loaded and rescreened. Additional batteries were found and appropriately packaged and shipped via cargo carrier to Khartoum. |
| 02/25/14 | DHL | Cargo | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Report from DHL of an international shipment that originated in Hong Kong. It was discovered damaged by fire at the Erlanger, KY sort center. The shipment contained 25 E-cigarette devices, which were enclosed in bubble wrap package contents and packaging. The contents and packaging were discovered charred and melted. The shipping documents provided inaccurate information about the contents. The package and contents were so damaged it was not possible to establish if the devices were equipped with an effective means of preventing accidental activation. The remaining pieces of the package were removed and stored by DHL. (revised 2/10/2015) |

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| 01/21/14 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Federal Express of an undeclared shipment containing eleven 8 volt lithium-ion batteries that were shipped from Mumbai, India to Sydney, Australia. During processing at the sort center, the shipment was being reviewed by Indian officials when they noted it was extremely hot. When officials separated the package they noted smoke and upon opening the shipment one of the lithium-ion batteries became engulfed with flames. A Security Guard on duty immediately extinguished the flame. The remaining pieces in the shipment are being kept at an isolated location within the Federal Express facility. |
| 10/27/13 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Federal Express of a shipment containing 174 individually packaged lithium-ion batteries destined for Anchorage, AK. During handling at the Memphis, TN sort facility a single battery was damaged by a dolly. This caused the battery to short circuit and smolder. An employee noticed smoke emitting from the package and reacted immediately with a fire extinguisher. No other damage occurred. The shipper was notified and the remaining contents were shipped without incident. |
| 10/02/13 | FEDEX | Cargo | Laptop | Report from Federal Express of a lap top that was damaged by a dolly during handling and caught on fire. The incident occurred at the Memphis, TN sort facility. The battery was removed, and the lap top returned to the shipper. |
| 09/26/13 | American Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from American Airlines of flight #1159 departing Chicago O'Hare (ORD) for Lambert-St. Louis International (STL) made an emergency landing when smoke was detected onboard the aircraft. A lithium-ion battery short circuited in a digital camera and caused a small fire in the overhead compartment. A Flight Attendant extinguished the fire and the plane landed without incident. All 120 passengers and six crew members switched planes and continued to STL. |

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| 06/28/13 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Federal Express of a metal case containing two lithium-ion batteries and 12 aerosol cans that were found to be emitting a strong burning smell. The terminals from one or both of the batteries came in contact with the aerosol cans or each other, which likely resulted in a short-circuit creating enough heat to singe a portion of the package. The shipment was discovered at the Indianapolis, IN facility. |
| 06/27/13 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from UPS of a shipment, which was emitting smoke during the sort process at the Ontario, CA facility. The shipment contained battery chargers with lithium-ion batteries. Several batteries had overheated and appeared charred. The items were placed in a 55-gallon drum and taken to a disposal area. |
| 06/03/13 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Southwest Airlines of smoke coming from a passenger's bag on the baggage carousel at the San Diego International Airport. Police officers noted that a lithium-ion battery in the suitcase had come into contact with a screw driver and the items melted. The damaged objects were removed and there was no evidence indicating other damage occurred as a result of the incident. |
| 05/18/13 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from DHL Express indicated that two of four boxes in a smoking shipment at their Erlanger, KY facility contained equipment installed with lithium ion batteries that showed evidence of fire. |
| 03/28/13 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Federal Express indicated that one of eight packages in a shipment containing undeclared batteries was on fire and another two showed evidence of burning at its Memphis, TN sort facility. |
| 10/27/12 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Federal Express indicated that a shipment loaded for an outbound flight at its Memphis, TN facility was smoking. The shipment was found to contain 52 undeclared AA ion batteries housed in a box that was burned. |
| 09/27/12 | Southwest Airlines | Passenger | Cell Phone | Report from Southwest Airlines indicated that a cell phone and spare battery in passenger carryon baggage overheated during flight and potentially caught fire. One flight attendant and two passengers who handled the battery sustained burns. |

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| 06/07/12 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from United Parcel Service indicated that at its Louisville, KY facility, a package containing 18 approximately 1 ounce lithium ion batteries from 6 various manufacturers melted through their plastic wrap causing the outer package to start burning. |
| 05/05/12 | United Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from United Airlines indicated that while loading bags a ramp agent at Newark, NJ noticed two apparent batteries on the ramp that appeared to have come from a whole that burned through a piece of checked baggage that had just been loaded into an aircraft bin. |
| 04/22/12 | Air Express International | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Air Express International indicated that a packaged opened during the sort at its Erlanger, KY facility. The package contained 17 lithium ion batteries. As one of the batteries was being returned to the package, it shorted out and caught fire. One employee was injured and treated at the facility. |
| 04/17/12 | Pinnacle Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | Report from Pinnacle Airlines indicated that a flight attendant described a shooting fire from a passenger's device at about the same time that the captain felt a small thud. Within seconds the flight crew noticed a strong burning electrical odor and the flight attendant observed a burning battery on the floor of the aisle. As trained, the flight attendant used water from the service cart to extinguish the fire almost immediately. |
| 03/24/12 | Atlas Air Cargo | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Atlas Air indicated that a package caught fire at its Incheon, Korea facility. The package appeared to contain a lap top computer. |
| 03/02/12 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report form Federal Express indicated a fire in a package at its Toluca, Mexico facility. When asked, the consignee reported that he had ordered a lithium battery for a bicycle. |
| 02/25/12 | FEDEX | Cargo | Other Device Types | Initial report form Federal Express indicated that a smoking unit load device was discovered at the Memphis, TN airport facility. Inspection revealed the contents of the ULD included a smoking and burning self-propelled surf board. |
| 10/29/11 | Austrian Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | A cargo pallet carrying lithium-ion battery packs caught fire on the ramp awaiting loading on Austrian Airlines flight AUA72 at Toronto/Lester B. Pearson Intl. Airport, Ontario, Canada. |

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| 10/10/11 | United Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Report from United Airlines indicated that the device left in a seat by a passenger began to smoke resulting in a small fire when the seat was moved back to the upright position (NFI). |
| 09/30/11 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Report from Delta Airlines indicates passenger checked in with Air Canada in YKA for flight to YVR and subsequent DL flight to SLC. During transfer at YVR, checked bag began to smolder. As DL agent lifted the bag, it burst into flames. Subsequent inspection of bag revealed it contained two large battery packs. |
| 08/17/11 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | Report from Delta Airlines indicates that a passenger, prior to a flight from Amsterdam to Detroit, was changed batteries for a camera and placed the “used” batteries in a camera bag. The batteries became hot and caused smoke. All batteries involved were left at the boarding gate before takeoff. |
| 03/29/11 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from Federal Express indicated that the batteries offered for shipment from Kwun Tong, China to Southampton, England caught fire for an unknown reason at the facility in Tsun Wan, Hong Kong. |
| 03/21/11 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from Federal Express indicated that the package offered for shipment from Mumbai, India to Shenzhen, China was observed to be smoking by a customs official at the facility in Guangzhou, China. Subsequent indicated the package contained the batteries. |
| 01/11/11 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | Report from Delta Airlines indicated that during DL# 1036 from SLC-ATL a passenger’s device became very hot and the plastic started to melt. There was no flame present. A flight attendant cooled the device with water. |
| 10/06/10 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service indicated that an electric storage acid battery offered for air shipment from Shanghai, China was observed smoking at the facility in Cerritos, CA. Subsequent investigation by FAA indicated that the battery appeared to be an 18.5 Volt, 30Ah (555Wh) Lithium Ion Battery (Lithium Cobalt Oxide (LiCoO2)). |
| 08/28/10 | FEDEX | Cargo | Other Device Types | Initial report from Fed Ex indicated that the flashlight in a backpack belonging to a jump seating crewing member caught on fire while at the gate in Memphis, TN. The report indicated that one of the flashlight batteries exhibited signs of thermal runaway causing the fire. |

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| 08/18/10 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service indicated a worker at the Ontario, CA facility noticed a smoking package offered for air shipment to Newbury Park, CA. Subsequent inspection indicated that package contained two batteries in contact and short circuiting. |
| 05/06/10 | Delta Airlines | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from Delta Airlines and incident response personnel indicated that while placing a checked bag a on a cart at the Seattle-Tacoma International airport, a baggage handler heard a “pop” and saw a flame and then smoke coming from the bag. Airport police and others responded to the incident. The terminal was evacuated. At the conclusion of the response, reports and eyewitness accounts obtained indicated the baggage remnants included the CR 123 lithium batteries. |
| 04/20/10 | American Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | Initial report from American Airlines indicated that a lithium-ion battery powered curling in checked baggage may have switched to the on position in the bag room at Narita Airport, Japan after a flight. The incident caused the associated spare lithium-ion batteries in proximity to the curling iron to go into a thermal runaway condition. As a result, the bag and some contents were scorched. |
| 02/09/10 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service Airline indicated that, subsequent to air transport from Hong Kong, during the local ground portion of the delivery, the truck driver heard a loud pop. First responders were called to the scene. One of the batteries in one of the packages in the shipment ruptured, discharged soot and dislodged other batteries in the package. |
| 09/09/09 | American Airlines | Passenger | Personal Electronic Devices | Initial report from American Airlines indicated that one of its company-owned batteries available for on-board use by passengers was dropped in-flight and caught fire. |
| 08/25/09 | FEDEX | Cargo | Other Device Types | Initial report from Federal Express indicated that a burning and smoking package was discovered at the Medford, MA facility. The package was in route to Seattle, WA. An unsuccessful attempt was made to extinguish the fire by cutting open the package and applying a fire extinguisher. The Fire Department had to be called. Subsequent inspection revealed that two of the devices heated and caused the surrounding packaging to ignite. |

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| 08/15/09 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service Airline indicated that a smoldering package was noticed at its Taiwan Hub. The package was transported from Macau, China. Inspection of other packages in the same consignment indicated that similar batteries were offered without terminal protection. |
| 08/14/09 | FEDEX | Cargo | e-Cigarettes/Vape Devices | Initial report from Federal Express indicated that upon landing at Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport the crew was alerted to a fire by a warning light associated with a forward compartment. Upon subsequent inspection of the relevant Unit Load Device, numerous packages were discovered with smoke and fire damage. |
| 07/15/09 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service Airline indicated that one of several related packages transported from Romulus, MI was discovered to be emitting smoke and smoldering in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Upon inspection, package contained numerous loose lithium-ion batteries with "...no protection of the contact points..." Package documentation indicated, "used batteries – non haz". |
| 06/18/09 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | Initial report from United Parcel Service Airline indicated that a burned package was discovered in Honolulu inside a Unit Load Device as it was being unloaded. The package was originally loaded in Philadelphia and was subsequently transported on UPS flight # 2967 from Ontario, California. DOT Form 5800.1 report to follow. |
| 08/08/08 | American Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | While in flight, a passenger on American Airlines flight 1539 from Washington National to Dallas Ft Worth, noticed his Dell laptop was smoking. The passenger removed the battery pack and gave it to a flight attendant. The flight attendant placed the battery in a coffee pot in the aft gallery and poured water and Sprite on it. Dell has been advised of the incident. |
| 08/06/08 | UPS | Cargo | Other Device Types | UPS Airline reports that a package containing LED lamps powered by excepted lithium ion batteries was transported on UPS#0213 on 04-AUG from Louisville, KY to Cologne, Germany. It was subsequently observed smoking in a UPS ground sort facility in Copenhagen, Denmark. |

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| 03/18/08 | United Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | In Denver, a UALA employee had two flashlights that contained CR123A Lithium batteries. Flashlight used for inspection of aircraft started to dim. Flashlight was turned off and placed in storage compartment in cockpit of 757. A banging noise described like gunshots originated from the flashlight. Cap on the on/off switch blown off and became projectile. Employees hand and fingers burned when he touched the flashlight to move it to the rear of the cockpit. Mechanic responded and safely removed the flashlight. |
| 03/04/08 | United Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | An i-Theater Video Display Unit used for viewing entertainment systems was charged at home prior to United flight from Chicago to Tokyo. Control unit was in use for 2.5 hrs. during the flight. Control unit began to generate heat, caused the plastic case to swell and emitted 10" plume of sparks and debris. United Captain doused unit with water. Small area of carpet damage to aircraft and no injuries to passengers or crew. |
| 02/29/08 | Unknown | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | The make-shift power unit for a passenger's laptop computer began to smoke during pre-board security screening at Terminal 7 of the Los Angeles International Airport. |
| 02/14/08 | Northwest Airlines | Passenger | Other Device Types | Approximately two-thirds of the 389 passengers had boarded a Northwest Airlines Tokyo-Hong Kong flight, when a passenger's carry-on bag caught fire in an overhead bin. Flight attendants put out the fire with two fire extinguishers. One passenger suffered a minor burn when he tried to put out the fire by hand. Early indications are that a battery in a small flashlight inside the bag caught fire. |
| 12/27/07 | UPS | Cargo | Medical Devices | Shipment was submitted to UPS for "2nd day Air" service. After pick-up and ground transportation, the package "spontaneously combusted" on the conveyor at a UPS package sort facility in Cerritos, Calif. An employee put out the fire with a facility fire extinguisher. |
| 12/15/07 | FEDEX | Cargo | Other Device Types | A package containing an R/C helicopter kit with lithium polymer batteries was being sent from Hong Kong to the Netherlands. It was discovered emitting smoke at the FEDEX sort center in Frankfurt, Germany. The package was brought outside the building and the fire was extinguished. |

EVENTS WITH SMOKE, FIRE, EXTREME HEAT OR EXPLOSION INVOLVING LITHIUM BATTERIES

03/25/2022

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| Date of Incident | Reporter | Type Carriage | Category | Reported Description |
|------------------|----------|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| 12/11/07 | UPS | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | A package of lithium polymer batteries for remote control aircraft was being transported by UPS from Argentina to San Marino via Cologne, Germany. At the UPS hub in Cologne, a customs inspector cut into the box with a knife, accidentally cutting into a battery, which then caught fire. The battery had a soft plastic exterior without a hard metal shell. A fire alarm was triggered and 400-500 people were evacuated from the facility for 35 minutes. The transport section of the accompanying MSDS stated the batteries were “non-regulated”. |
| 09/30/07 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | After flying from Hong Kong, a Korea-bound box was emitting smoke upon offload at the FEDEX Hub at Subic Bay, Philippines. No flames were seen. The box was removed from the sort. The outer-most box was an overpack containing three inner fiberboard boxes. |
| 08/08/07 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | The batteries traveled from Hong Kong to Frankfurt on a FEDEX flight. During customs inspection, one of the 440 batteries in the package started to burn. |
| 06/14/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Other Device Types | While walking in the Long Beach, CA, airport terminal prior to flight, a passenger’s personal air filter worn around her neck exploded in a streak of fire. The battery was ejected at high speed across the terminal and melted the carpet where it came to rest. Passenger was uninjured but suffered scorches/burns on her clothing. A non-rechargeable lithium metal battery may have been put into a recharger before inserting it into the air purifier. |
| 06/05/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Laptop | While waiting in the airport gate area, a passenger plugged his laptop computer into an electrical outlet on a column in the seating area. At some point the computer began smoking. Airline agent suggested the passenger unplug or shutoff the computer but passenger did not. The computer eventually burst into flames. Fire extinguishers were used to suppress—but not quickly extinguish—the fire. |
| 05/15/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | Ramp worker removed checked bag that was on fire when loading passenger aircraft. Fire department determined that the fire was caused by a battery-pack for a Sony PSP handheld video game. Note: This information comes from an anonymous report via the NASA ASRS. Airline, location, persons involved and exact date are unknown. |

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| 03/19/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Other Device Types | 1 ½ hours into a passenger flight from Buenos Aires to Miami a small explosion occurred in the Business Class section of the aircraft. There were sparks then a flash and smoke. Flight attendants, then the Captain, responded. Battery fragments were the only evidence found. It is suspected that the battery dropped into a seat and arced against a metal seat frame causing it to explode. The ruptured battery splattered debris on overhead bins. A fragment hit a passenger in the head burning her hair near her earlobe. Seven flight attendants were affected by smoke/fume inhalation. All refused medical treatment in Miami. One aircraft seat bottom and four seat covers were damaged and replaced. |
| 03/09/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Laptop | Passenger flight from Toronto to Dallas/Ft. Worth diverted to St. Louis after strong electrical burning smell in the cabin. Source was laptop being used by a passenger while plugged in to aircraft power port via power converter. Power converter reportedly heated up. Aircraft power port and laptop reportedly in normal working condition afterwards. |
| 03/01/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | US mail package from EBay internet vendor containing twenty-four Surefire SF123A batteries were transported on a passenger flight from LAX to Sydney and caught fire at the Sydney Mail Gateway Facility. |
| 02/26/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | During checked baggage screening, TSA personnel discovered two 12-volt batteries in a passenger’s tool box, reportedly for a business demo. The battery terminals were exposed. Upon examination, one of the terminals touched the ETD table and sparked causing the screener to drop the battery. The battery landed with both terminals down and started smoking. TSA determined the batteries were not “hazmat” and the airline agreed to transport the batteries as long as the terminals were protected. |

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| 02/10/07 | Unknown | Passenger | Other Device Types | While still climbing after takeoff from JFK, smoke began pouring from an overhead bin in the passenger cabin. Passengers alerted the flight attendants who responded. A flight attendant opened the bin and saw thick black smoke and flames in the rear of the bin. As the plane returned to the airport for an emergency landing flight attendants were able to put out the fire, discharging two Halon fire extinguishers. Water was applied to some cloth embers that continued to burn after the Halon was used. Cockpit crew smelled some light smoke in the cockpit and donned O2 masks for approx. 20 seconds until the smoke dissipated. Source of fire, bag with audio-video equip was secured in a lavatory. Aircraft landed and taxied to the gate. One passenger complained of chest pains and needed assistance in exiting the aircraft. The fire apparently was caused by loose batteries that were packed in a bag with other audio-video equipment. One Energizer lithium metal 9- volt was destroyed in the fire and seems most likely to be source of the fire. |
| 12/15/06 | Unknown | Passenger | Other Device Types | On a Houston-Portland passenger flight, a personal air filter, being worn on a strap around a passenger's neck, started a fire in the cabin. The device started making hissing sounds and then emitted bright sparks/flash and a clap/bang sound. The passenger removed the device and it fell between two seat cushions where it continued to burn and smoke. Passengers dumped water on the device and then flight attendants put out the fire with a Halon fire extinguisher. The aircraft diverted to Colorado Springs. The passenger wearing the device suffered a superficial burn to his chest. Dozens of passengers were examined by EMT personnel, mainly for complaints related to inhalation of smoke and/or Halon fumes. Five or six passengers were taken to the hospital. The two fire-resistant aircraft seat cushions were replaced due to having holes burned in them. The airline flight attendant accidentally disposed of the battery, so a determination of what type of lithium battery (primary vs. secondary) could not be made. NTSB took possession of the device and sent to their lab for analysis. Lab analysis of the damaged device was inconclusive in determining what caused the malfunction. |

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| 12/14/06 | UPS | Cargo | Other Device Types | During a UPS cargo flight from Sydney, Australia to Guangzhou, China, at 38,000 ft., the crew heard a loud bang. A crewmember found that his flashlight in a bag next to his seat was warm and had a strong odor coming from it. The flashlight was opened and there was soot/residue from burning. One of the two batteries (now determined to be counterfeit) was damaged. Earlier the crewmember had dropped the flashlight about 6 inches into his bag and heard a thump. |
| 11/11/06 | Unknown | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | After being shipped by air from China to the US, some batteries were selected for inspection by US Customs. While on the desk of an import specialist, the battery started emitting sparking flames and smoke. |
| 09/15/06 | United Airlines | Passenger | Laptop | Approximately 15 minutes prior to departure of a LAX-LHR transatlantic flight, the laptop computer of a passenger began to smoke. The relief pilot and purser assisted the passenger in removing the laptop from the airplane. The laptop was placed on the floor of the gate area where it continued to smoke from the battery pack area and a small flame appeared. A customer service representative discharged a fire extinguisher on the fire. The battery pack continued to smoke for an additional couple minutes with white smoke and a strong odor. The Fire Department responded and discarded the burnt battery pack. The passenger stated the laptop was an IBM that belonged to his company and had been in his possession the entire time, having original parts and never having been serviced. The passenger was reportedly not using aircraft power to operate the computer. The airplane remained in service and departed on time without the incident passenger. |
| 09/15/06 | DHL | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | During off-loading at their Plymouth, MN facility, DHL/Airborne personnel discovered two boxes that were warm to the touch. The boxes were opened and found to contain hundreds and hundreds of button cell batteries loosely packed together in a plastic bag liner. Batteries were being shipped by a small business battery recycler that stated they thought all batteries were discharged. Tests showed many still had positive voltage. |
| 07/17/06 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | The unlabeled/marked package was discovered to have caught fire while being held in bond for customs clearance in Korea. Package had traveled to Korea in FEDEX system from Vienna via Paris and Subic Bay. |

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| 07/01/06 | British Airways | Passenger | Other Device Types | Upon arriving at home after a flight, a British Airways passenger found that his battery-powered photographic flash unit in his baggage had burnt holes in some of his clothing. Plastic housing on flash unit had also melted. |
| 06/02/06 | Air China | Passenger | Battery Packs/Batteries | An Air China passenger flight from Guangzhou to Chengdu diverted takeoff due to a lithium battery fire in the cargo hold. While taxiing for departure the fire alarm for the lower deck cargo compartment activated. The Captain immediately released the fire extinguisher and the aircraft stopped taxiing. Passengers were evacuated. A burnt package containing lithium polymer batteries was discovered in the cargo hold up against the ceiling of the compartment on top of the other packages. Burn marks were visible on the ceiling. Shipment was declared as electric parts; there was no indication of lithium batteries or Dangerous Goods. No UN test report was available for the batteries. Eleven other boxes were in the shipment. |
| 05/15/06 | Lufthansa | Passenger | Laptop | Shortly before flight departure, a burning smell was detected in the first-class cabin of a Lufthansa ORD-MUC flight. Maintenance personnel were called to check and found it was coming from hand luggage inside an overhead luggage bin above seat 2A. The flight attendants evacuated the passengers in first class and first 2 rows of coach class. Crew used extinguishers to prevent setting off what was seen as the beginning of a slow fire. Maintenance immediately brought the bag outside the aircraft onto the ramp where it started to catch fire. Fire dept. was called to assist. Fire was eventually put out after reigniting once. Fire apparently started from the extra battery pack for a laptop, which was purchased on eBay. Flight departed 1 hour 18 minutes late. |
| 03/03/06 | FEDEX | Cargo | Battery Packs/Batteries | US-bound package was noticed to be smoking at outbound FEDEX station in Shenzhen, China. Upon inspection, the package of lithium ion batteries was discovered to be on fire. |