Lead Acid Automotive Batteries
Packaging & Shipping Instructions

Automotive batteries may now come in a variety of battery chemistries depending on the power type of the vehicle. This instruction is specifically for the spillable lead acid batteries used in vehicles with a traditional internal combustion engine.

Correctly Packaged Flooded Cell Batteries

1. Prepare Shipment
- Wood slats added as “bumpers” to keep cells from moving on pallet
- Cardboard insulation below and multiple (3+) layers on top
- Banded together with high-strength vinyl (NOT STEEL) banding then banded to pallet
- To prevent leaking, check to see if there are vent caps, or missing vent caps, as this can cause battery acid to splash out of the battery, even in an undamaged cell
- Proper labeling

2. Package Pallet
- Shrink wrap to pallet. Using layers of shrink wrap down to bottom edges of the pallet will help avoid shifting during shipment.
- It is not possible to have too much shrink wrap or banding to secure the material to the pallets.
- A general rule would be once you think you have it wrapped – add six more revolutions of wrap.
- If you can easily poke fingers through the shrink wrap, you need to add more.

- Cover vents. Insulate bottom of pallet with cardboard or plywood below and on top of batteries. Secure to pallet with vinyl banding over topmost insulating layer.

3. Label & Ship
- Shrinkwrap to pallet. Attach appropriate labels to outermost layer of shrink wrap or packing material.

Incorrectly Packaged Flooded Cell Batteries

- Insufficient cardboard (less than three layers) on top or bottom of cells
- Exposed terminals or use of steel banding
- Insufficient banding OR not banded to the pallet
- Not protected from sliding off pallet with wooden “bumpers”
- Insufficient amount of shrink wrap OR not shrink wrapped to pallet
- Incorrect labeling

Contact Battery Solutions for recycling authorization tracking number. Begin to build shipment on 40” by 48” pallet.

Cover vents. Insulate bottom of pallet with cardboard or plywood below and on top of batteries. Secure to pallet with vinyl banding over topmost insulating layer.

Shrinkwrap to pallet. Attach appropriate labels to outermost layer of shrink wrap or packing material.
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These instructions must be followed exactly.
These instructions are for automotive lead acid batteries only. If you are unsure of the type of batteries that you have, please contact us for assistance.

Contact Information & Considerations
If batteries are damaged or leaking, or if you are unsure if batteries are damaged, please call the Battery Solutions logistics department for instructions.

To plan a shipment or for any questions call our logistics department at 800.852.8127.

Planning a Shipment
Under the Universal Waste Law, you must contact Battery Solutions before sending a shipment of universal waste batteries to us so we may assign a recycling authorization tracking number to the shipment.

We will provide you with the address of the nearest recycling center for your shipment and arrange transportation and handling, as needed.

When calling please inform us:
• Of your specific pick-up hours.
• If you do or do not have a loading dock or lift truck to load the batteries for shipment.
• If you do not have an asphalt or concrete loading area.

Preparing Batteries for Shipment
Any vents or spark arresters on the battery must be capped or plugged to prevent leaking during shipping or storage.

Damaged batteries that are not visibly leaking should be placed in strong poly bags and properly closed with an adjustable plastic tie to secure.

Pallet Limitations
• Only use heavy-duty pallets with 2” x 4” supports.
• Pallet Size should not exceed 40”x 48”.
• Pallet weight should not exceed 2800 lbs.
• Pallet heights should not exceed 48” tall.
• The whole pallet, with layers, should never be taller than it is wide.

Packaging Pallet to Ship
• The top surface of the pallet should have 2” x 2” wooden strips nailed to the pallet surrounding the base of the batteries to prevent the batteries or drums from sliding off the pallet during transit.
• Do not use styrofoam packaging material, i.e. peanuts, foam padding, flow-foam products, etc. in the battery boxes or in the pallets. Using these materials will incur a surcharge. All types of cardboard and shrink wrap materials are acceptable.
• All batteries must be packaged on a pallet in individual boxes or with an ample amount of cardboard to separate the layers of batteries and protect all the terminals. Thicker honeycomb cardboard is ideal for separating layers.
• When packaging the batteries on the pallet, if the batteries are not in boxes, place one layer of batteries upright, then place a thick honeycomb layer of cardboard on top of that layer before you put another layer of batteries on the pallet.
• Place honeycomb cardboard over the top layer to ensure that foreign materials cannot cause a short across the batteries.
• All batteries should be carefully banded to a strong wooden pallet with 5/8” heavy duty vinyl banding ensuring the banding does NOT come in contact with battery terminals.
• If banding is unavailable, use shrink wrap in heavy layers to the pallet ensuring the shrink wrap is all the way down around the pallet itself. Use enough shrink wrap to keep the batteries from shifting during transportation.
• When shipping wet cell batteries with acid or alkali electrolyte, use a corrosive Class 8 placard on opposite sides of each pallet. Battery Solutions can supply you with these labels if needed.

Shipping
Have the driver of the trucking company sign the bill of lading that was provided to you. Keep a signed copy for your records.

Attention Battery Solutions, LLC. Customers - Notice to Comply:
As the shipper of record you must fully comply with all U.S. Department of Transportation regulations.

The party shipping or transporting batteries (the “Shipper”) to Battery Solutions, LLC. ("BSL") must properly secure the batteries to pallets prior to loading onto the truck. Packaging and labeling must be in compliance with the U.S. Department of Transportation – Code of Federal Regulations (CFR).

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