



UL 1642

STANDARD FOR SAFETY

Lithium Batteries

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UL Standard for Safety for Lithium Batteries, UL 1642

Sixth Edition, Dated September 29, 2020

Summary of Topics

A sixth edition of the Standard for Lithium Batteries, UL 1642, has been issued to reflect the latest proposals that achieved consensus as follows:

- ***Clarifications to the Projectile Test set-up in 20.2 – 20.4 and Figure 20.1; and***
- ***Revision of the coin cell warning marking in 22.3 to remove outdated phone number to the National Poison Control Center.***

The revised requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated June 24, 2019 and June 10, 2020.

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

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UL 1642

Standard for Lithium Batteries

First Edition – October, 1985
Second Edition – November, 1992
Third Edition – April, 1995
Fourth Edition – September, 2005
Fifth Edition – March, 2012

Sixth Edition

September 29, 2020

This UL Standard for Safety consists of the Sixth Edition.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted to UL at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in UL's On-Line Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at <https://csds.ul.com>.

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INTRODUCTION

1 Scope

1.1 These requirements cover primary (nonrechargeable) and secondary (rechargeable) lithium batteries for use as power sources in products. These batteries contain metallic lithium, or a lithium alloy, or a lithium ion, and may consist of a single electrochemical cell or two or more cells connected in series, parallel, or both, that convert chemical energy into electrical energy by an irreversible or reversible chemical reaction.

1.2 These requirements cover lithium batteries intended for use in technician-replaceable or user-replaceable applications.

1.3 These requirements are intended to reduce the risk of fire or explosion when lithium batteries are used in a product. The final acceptability of these batteries is dependent on their use in a complete product that complies with the requirements applicable to such product.

1.4 These requirements are also intended to reduce the risk of injury to persons due to fire or explosion when user-replaceable lithium batteries are removed from a product and discarded.

1.5 These requirements cover technician-replaceable lithium batteries that contain 5.0 g (0.18 oz) or less of metallic lithium. A battery containing more than 5.0 g (0.18 oz) of lithium is judged on the basis of compliance with the requirements in this standard, insofar as they are applicable, and further examination and test to determine whether the battery is acceptable for its intended uses.

1.6 These requirements cover user-replaceable lithium batteries that contain 4.0 g (0.13 oz) or less of metallic lithium with not more than 1.0 g (0.04 oz) of metallic lithium in each electrochemical cell. A battery containing more than 4.0 g (0.13 oz) or a cell containing more than 1.0 g (0.04 oz) lithium may require further examination and test to determine whether the cells or batteries are acceptable for their intended uses.

1.7 These requirements do not cover the toxicity risk that may result from the ingestion of a lithium battery or its contents, nor the risk of injury to persons that may occur if a battery is cut open to provide access to the metallic lithium.

2 General

2.1 Units of measurement

2.1.1 Values stated without parentheses are the requirement. Values in parentheses are explanatory or approximate information.

2.2 Terminology

2.2.1 The terms "lithium battery(ies)" and "battery(ies)" refer to both user-replaceable and technician-replaceable lithium batteries.

2.3 Components

2.3.1 A component of a product covered by this standard shall comply with the requirements for that component. See Annex A for a list of standards covering components generally used in the products covered by this standard.