



ACCESS Portable USDOT Regulations

US DOT regulations on spare Lithium Ion batteries

If you already own a Comrex ACCESS Portable codec, then you know how great it is to travel with. Its compact size and light weight make it a perfect tool for broadcasters on the go. If you are one of the thousands of Comrex customers that are constantly on the road and running through airports you undoubtedly know the TSA drill of the 1 quart bag, 3-1-1, place the laptop in the bin, no metal in your pockets and yada, yada, yada!

Well, Comrex has learned that as of January 1st, 2008, a new US Department of Transportation Regulation goes into effect that limits the transportation of loose, spare Lithium Ion batteries to carry-on luggage ONLY.

The new regulation states that "passengers will no longer be able to pack loose lithium batteries in checked luggage beginning January 1, 2008 once new federal safety rules take effect. The new regulation, designed to reduce the risk of lithium battery fires, will continue to allow lithium batteries in checked baggage if they are installed in electronic devices, or in carry-on baggage if stored in plastic bags."

The full press release is available online at the PHMSA website. If you are planning to fly to your next remote, its a good idea to either check with your airline or with airport security to ensure that your gear meets checked and carryon luggage restrictions. And keep in mind that all countries have varying requirements. So its a good idea to be aware of those requirements if you are transiting or traveling to another country.

For tips on navigating U.S. airport security, please visit: www.tsa.gov.