



## New guidelines: shipping of lithium-ion cells and batteries

The Cargo Incident Network System (CINS) has just released its “Guidelines for the Shipping of Lithium-ion Cells and Batteries”, addressing one of the key risks in global cargo transport.

Published 06 May 2026

The information provided in this article is intended for general information only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information at the time of publication, no warranty or representation is made regarding its completeness or timeliness. The content in this article does not constitute professional advice, and any reliance on such information is strictly at your own risk. Gard AS, including its affiliated companies, agents and employees, shall not be held liable for any loss, expense, or damage of any kind whatsoever arising from reliance on the information provided, irrespective of whether it is sourced from Gard AS, its shareholders, correspondents, or other contributors.

Developed in collaboration with the International Group of P&I Clubs, the TT Club and IUMI, the guidelines provide practical safety recommendations for shipping companies, operators and carriers handling lithium-ion cells and batteries classified under UN Nos. 3480 and 3481 in Cargo Transport Units (CTUs).

The guidelines are published amid growing concerns, with battery-related incidents becoming more frequent and more severe, as highlighted in this recent [Gard insight article](#) . By outlining key risks and mitigation measures, the new guidelines aim to help industry stakeholders better manage hazards and reduce the likelihood of costly and dangerous incidents at sea.

**Download the full guidelines:**

[CINS-Guidelines-for-Shipping-Lithium-ion-Cells-and-Batteries-April-2026.pdf](#)

The information provided in this article is intended for general information only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information at the time of publication, no warranty or representation is made regarding its completeness or timeliness. The content in this article does not constitute professional advice, and any reliance on such information is strictly at your own risk. Gard AS, including its affiliated companies, agents and employees, shall not be held liable for any loss, expense, or damage of any kind whatsoever arising from reliance on the information provided, irrespective of whether it is sourced from Gard AS, its shareholders, correspondents, or other contributors.