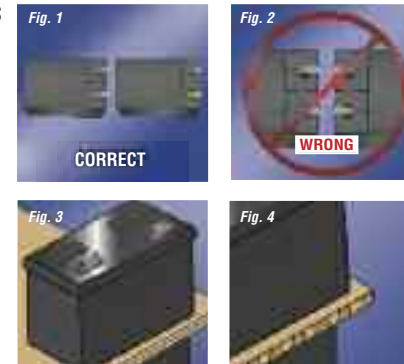


# Packaging and Securing Used Stationary Batteries/Cells

THESE GUIDELINES ARE TO ASSIST IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT) REGULATIONS<sup>1</sup>. PLEASE ASSIST THE DRIVER IN COMPLYING WITH THE LAW. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE GUIDELINES CAN RESULT IN REFUSAL BY THE CARRIER TO ACCEPT MATERIAL. IN ADDITION, FAILURE TO COMPLY CAN RESULT IN FINES AND PENALTIES FROM FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR STACKING USED STATIONARY MONOBLOCK BATTERIES

1. Select a sturdy skid/pallet with no broken or missing boards. (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).
2. Be sure there are no nails sticking up, which could puncture the batteries. Stack return battery pallet using pallet provided with new shipment if possible.
3. Place a layer of cardboard on the pallet to prevent the batteries from sliding off of the pallet.
4. Make the first layer of batteries level and as close together as possible. If some of the batteries are shorter, they should be placed in the center of layers. Any taller batteries should be placed on the top layer.
5. Place waffleboard (preferred) or sufficient cardboard (multiple sheets if necessary) between all layers, including the top layer of batteries to prevent the possibility of puncturing the batteries above and short circuits. Place cardboard on top of pallet.
6. Batteries with terminals on the side must be stacked so the posts are facing away from each other and not facing towards the outside of the pallet. Terminals on the side must never touch. (see Fig.1 and 2)
7. Terminals on the top must be positioned toward the outside of the pallet so the layer above it leans toward the center. (Fig. 3) Make sure that no batteries are overhanging the waffleboard or sheets of cardboard. (Fig. 4)
8. Stud terminal batteries should be on the top layer. If this is not possible, you will need extra layers of cardboard between the layers of batteries to prevent punctures.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRAPPING USED STATIONARY MONOBLOCK BATTERIES FOR SHIPMENT

All batteries must be secured to the pallet with stretch wrap. Stretch wrap works best if it is pulled tight before stretching it around the corners.

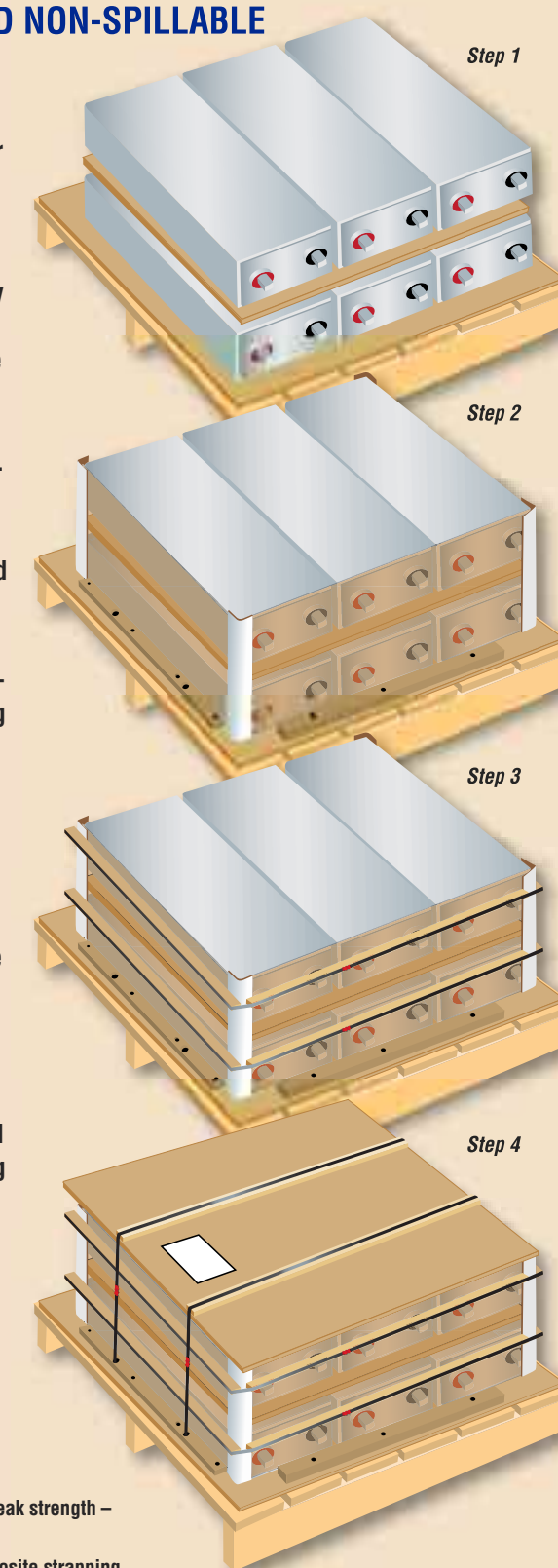
1. Start with the stretch wrap turned sideways to create a rope effect (see fig. 1). Wrap around the top layer at least twice. \*
2. Still using the rope effect, wrap the top layer twice\* again, crossing over the top each time to form an "X-pattern." This will pull the batteries towards the center to prevent batteries from falling off of the pallet, a DOT requirement.
3. Hold the stretch wrap open (see fig. 2 and 3), wrap around the bottom layer twice\*, being sure to catch the edges of the pallet.
4. Finally, after placing cardboard on top of the batteries, wrap around the top layer twice\* with the stretch wrap in the open effect and tear at the last corner.

\* Wrap as many times as necessary to stabilize the load



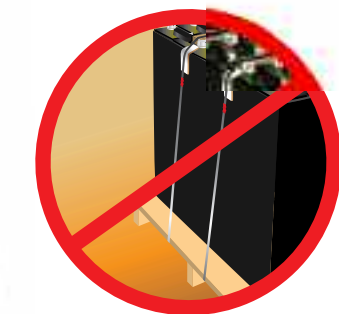
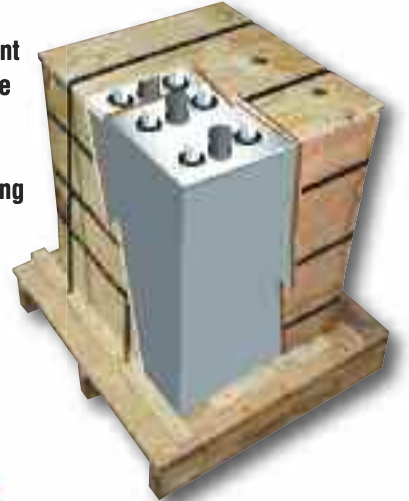
## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING USED NON-SPILLABLE STATIONARY CELLS FOR SHIPMENT

1. Place cells on skid/pallet that meets pallet specifications noted in this document. Use Triwall (3 Layer Cardboard) or Waffleboard between layers.
2. Place 1/2" plywood sheet on the top of pallet. Place your first layer of cells on top of the plywood. Place cells on their side to help avoid the possibility of them falling over during shipment. Place one layer of 5/8" Triwall or Waffleboard on the top of the first layer of cells. Place the next layer using the same guidelines. Continue building layers, making sure that you do not exceed maximum pallet weight. (See Step 1). Place Triwall or Waffleboard around ALL sides of the cells.
3. Secure the cells by nailing wooden cleats to the skid on all sides so the Triwall is held tightly against the cells and will remain vertical.
4. Install cardboard corner supports initially with packing tape to make it easier to manage before banding (See Step 2).
5. Install plastic banding<sup>2</sup> horizontally around each layer of cells as shown in drawing (Step 3). Before pulling tight, place wooden strips under the banding as shown to provide support for the cardboard. Note, the wooden strips can be held in place with packing tape to make it easier to manage before tightening the banding.
6. Once each layer has one horizontal band securing them, place 1/2" plywood on the top layer and secure with two bands vertically that run from front to back on the skid. Drill holes through cleating/skid boards as close to cells as possible and run banding through holes and around batteries to secure.
7. After you have completed banding, place the RSA tag on top of the pallet to complete preparation for shipping (See Step 4).



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING USED FLOODED STATIONARY CELLS FOR SHIPMENT

- Cells must be palletized using a skid/pallet (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).
- Cells must be upright and secured with wooden cleats on skid/pallet.
- Cells must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> and a minimum of three horizontal bands and two vertical bands around cells are required.
- Adequate reinforcement (e.g. plywood) must be placed on the top and sides of the cells to prevent shorting, cutting or distortion.



### NOTE:

Do not run banding around the outside of skid boards to avoid the possibility of boards collapsing during shipment.

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<sup>1</sup> Title 49 C.F.R. 173.159 Batteries, Wet

<sup>2</sup> PLASTIC BANDING SPECIFICATIONS:

- PREFERRED: 3/4" polyester strapping, 2500 lb break strength – utilizing friction weld, NOT clips
- LIGHT WEIGHT APPLICATIONS: 3/4" polyester strapping, 1400 lb break strength – utilizing friction weld, NOT clips
- ALTERNATIVE MATERIAL (Manual Application): 3/4" polyester composite strapping, 2000 lb break strength – buckle joint

WAFFLEBOARD OR SHEETS OF CARDBOARD\*

BATTERIES

WAFFLEBOARD PREFERRED\*  
(MINIMIZES POTENTIAL FOR POST PENETRATION AND SHORT CIRCUIT)

BATTERIES

WAFFLEBOARD PREFERRED\*  
(MINIMIZES POTENTIAL FOR POST PENETRATION AND SHORT CIRCUIT)

BATTERIES

CARDBOARD

SKID BOARDS

RUNNERS

\* See item 4 and 7 under Stacking Pallet Instructions

## IMPORTANT GENERAL HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

Before handling battery/cell(s), please read and adhere to all of the following requirements:

- Wear the appropriate personal protection equipment
- Handle all returned batteries with the same responsible care as new batteries
- Keep batteries upright at all times. Do not tip over on side or upside down (Except Non-Spillables)
- Do not drop batteries. Put batteries carefully down on skid/pallet
- Only lead-acid batteries may be returned
- Do not double stack cells or batteries on skid/pallet
- Terminals must be protected with non-conductive caps, tape or other insulating material (e.g. waffleboard, cardboard) to prevent shorting
- Total height of package not to exceed 1 1/2 times the skid/pallet width
- Any damaged or cracked cell must be free of electrolyte and placed in a heavyweight clear polyethylene plastic bag (min. 6 mil) that is securely closed.
- All vent caps must be in place

## IMPORTANT SKID/PALLET SPECIFICATIONS

- Use a skid/pallet provided with a new shipment to return used motive batteries if possible
- Maximum skid/pallet sizes: 48" x 44" or 48" x 40"
- Skid/pallet boards: 5/8 inch thick minimum preferred
- Skid/pallet must be constructed with a minimum of three bottom runners
- Skid/pallet sturdy and durable enough to handle the weight of battery load



# Packaging and Securing Used Motive Batteries/Cells

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING USED MOTIVE BATTERIES FOR SHIPMENT

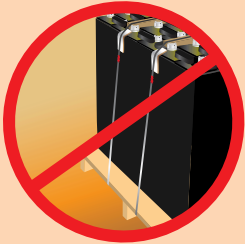
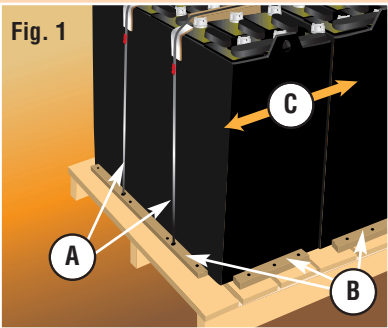
1. See "Important Skid/Pallet Specifications" Section.
2. Place all batteries upright and across the runners of the skid/pallet if possible.
3. Batteries must be free from leaks.
4. Multiple batteries can be banded together to consolidate a shipment to a standard skid/pallet size.
5. Adequate wooden cleats must be firmly nailed to the skid/pallet on all sides around the base of the battery(ies) perimeter, to prevent the battery from sliding off the skid/pallet during transport.



6. Batteries must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> and adequate insulation. See "General Handling Requirements" for details.



8. Each battery should be secured to the skid/pallet by: Banding in one direction (See A in Fig. 1) and wooden cleats nailed to skid/pallet on all four sides of the battery (See B in Fig. 1). Banding should be placed in the same direction as the runners of the skid/pallet (See C in Fig. 1). The banding should pass through the skid/pallet as close as possible to the base of the battery to keep the load from moving during transport.
9. Skid/pallets must be properly blocked, braced, or otherwise secured in the trailer to prevent shifting of the load during transport.



**NOTE:**  
Do not pass banding around the outside edge of skid/pallet to avoid skid/pallet failure during transport.

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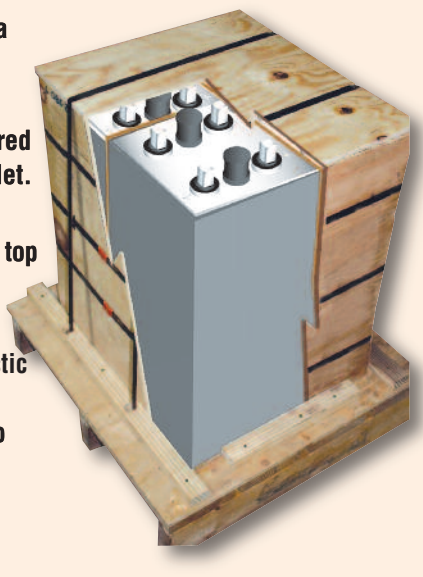
<sup>1</sup> Title 49 C.F.R. 173.159 Batteries, Wet

<sup>2</sup> PLASTIC BANDING SPECIFICATIONS: PREFERRED: 3/4" polyester strapping, 2500 lb break strength – utilizing friction weld, NOT clips • LIGHT WEIGHT APPLICATIONS: 1/2" polyester strapping, 1400 lb break strength – utilizing friction weld, NOT clips • ALTERNATIVE MATERIAL (Manual Application): 3/4" polyester composite strapping, 2000 lb break strength – buckle joint

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING USED MOTIVE CELLS FOR SHIPMENT

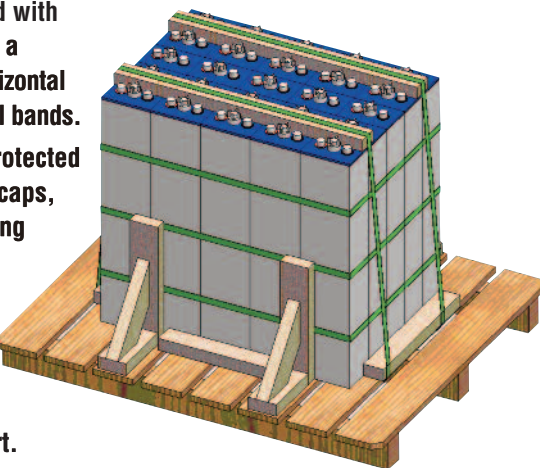
### SUPPORT BRACING METHOD: MULTIPLE CELL INSTRUCTION

- Cells must be palletized using a skid/pallet (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).
- Cells must be upright and secured with wooden cleats on skid/pallet.
- Adequate reinforcement (i.e. plywood) must be placed on the top and sides of the cells to prevent shorting, cutting or distortion.
- Cells must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> with a minimum of three horizontal bands and two vertical bands.



### ALTERNATIVE SUPPORT BRACING METHOD: MULTIPLE CELL INSTRUCTION

- Cells must be upright and secured with wooden cleats on skid/pallet.
- Cells must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> with a minimum of three horizontal bands and two vertical bands.
- Terminals must be protected with non-conductive caps, tape or other insulating material (i.e. waffleboard, cardboard) to prevent shorting.
- Stretch wrap may be used for extra support.



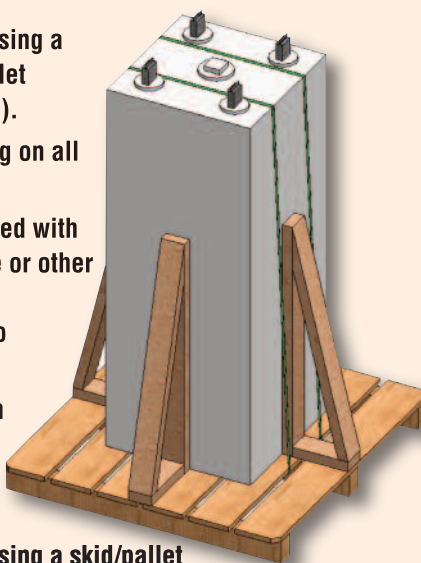
### SUPPORT BRACING METHOD: SINGLE CELL INSTRUCTION

- Cells must be palletized using a skid/pallet. (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).
- Cells must be upright and secured with wooden cleats on skid/pallet.
- Adequate reinforcement (i.e. plywood) must be placed on the top and sides of the cells to prevent shorting, cutting or distortion.
- Cells must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> with a minimum of three horizontal bands and two vertical bands.



### ALTERNATIVE SUPPORT BRACING METHOD: SINGLE CELL INSTRUCTION

- Cells must be palletized using a skid/pallet (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).
- Use gusset support bracing on all four sides.
- Terminals must be protected with non-conductive caps, tape or other insulating material (i.e. waffleboard, cardboard) to prevent shorting.
- Cells must be banded with plastic banding<sup>2</sup> with two vertical bands across tops of cells.
- Cells must be palletized using a skid/pallet (See "Skid/Pallet Specifications" for details).



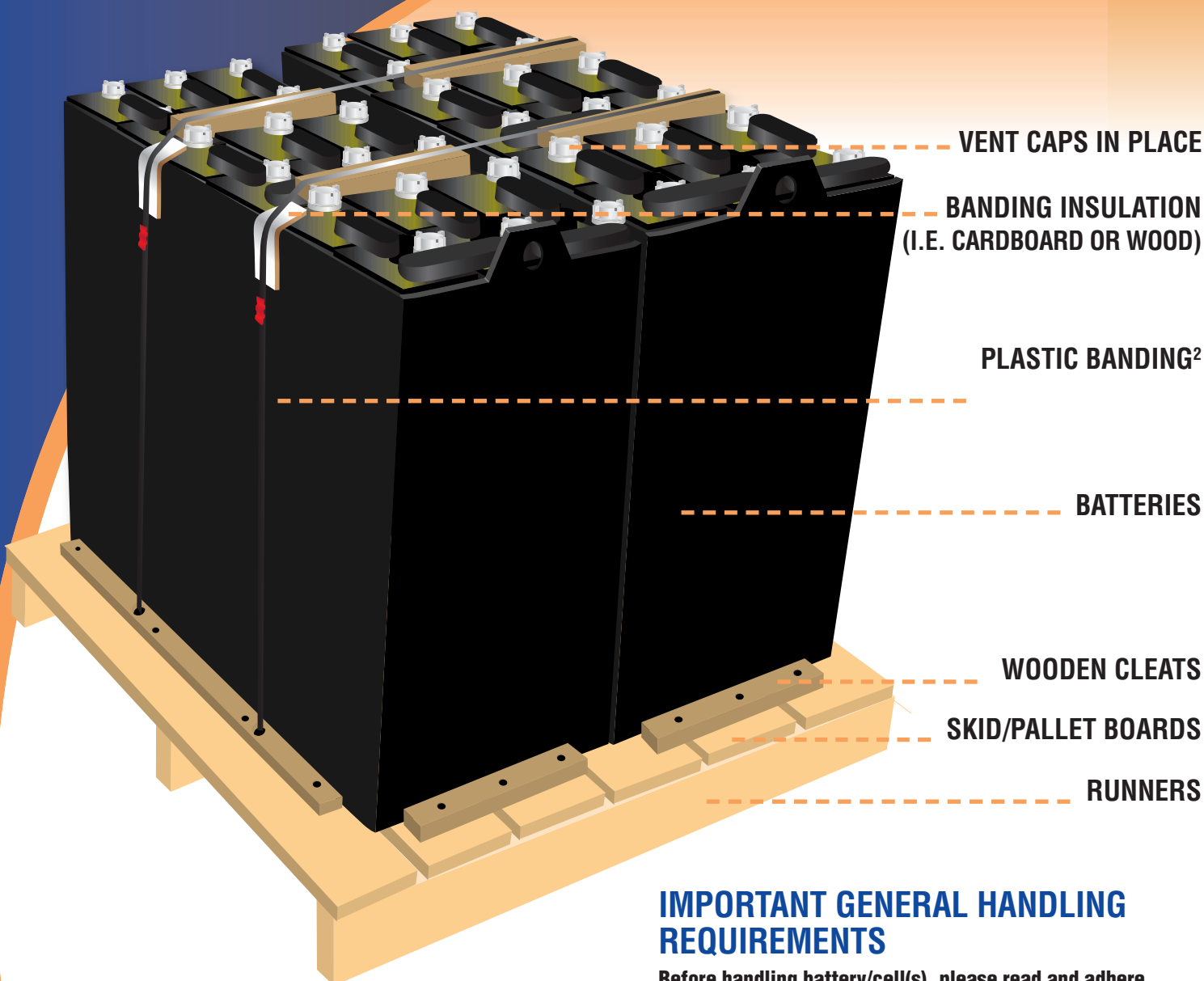
## IMPORTANT GENERAL HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

Before handling battery/cell(s), please read and adhere to all of the following requirements:

- Wear the appropriate personal protection equipment
- Handle all returned batteries with the same responsible care as new batteries
- Keep batteries upright at all times. Do not tip over on side or upside down
- Do not drop batteries. Put batteries carefully down on skid/pallet
- Only lead-acid batteries may be returned
- Do not double stack cells or batteries on skid/pallet
- Terminals must be protected with non-conductive caps, tape or other insulating material (i.e. waffleboard, cardboard) to prevent shorting
- Total height of package not to exceed 1 1/2 times the skid/pallet width
- Any damaged or cracked cell must be free of electrolyte and placed in a clear heavyweight polyethylene plastic bag (min. 6 mil) that is securely closed
- All vent caps must be in place

## IMPORTANT SKID/PALLET SPECIFICATIONS

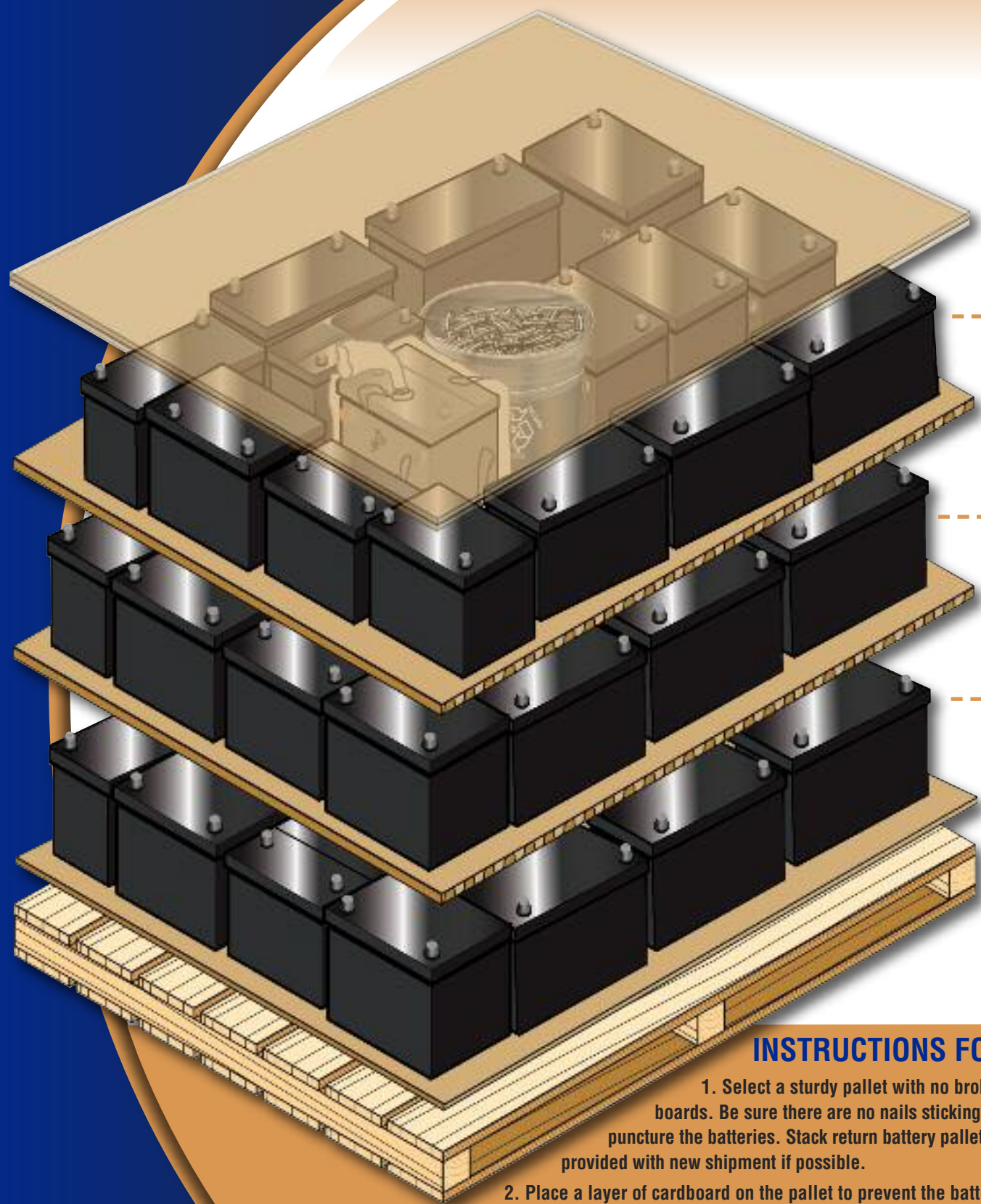
- Use a skid/pallet provided with a new shipment to return used motive batteries if possible
- Maximum skid/pallet sizes: 48" x 44" or 48" x 40"
- Skid/pallet boards: 5/8" thick minimum preferred
- Skid/pallet must be constructed with a minimum of three bottom runners
- Skid/pallet sturdy and durable enough to handle the weight of battery load





# Stacking and Wrapping New and Used Batteries on Pallets

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WAFFLEBOARD OR SHEETS  
OF CARDBOARD\*

BATTERIES

WAFFLEBOARD PREFERRED\*  
(MINIMIZES POTENTIAL FOR POST PENETRATION AND SHORT CIRCUIT)

BATTERIES

WAFFLEBOARD PREFERRED\*  
(MINIMIZES POTENTIAL FOR POST PENETRATION AND SHORT CIRCUIT)

BATTERIES

CARDBOARD

PALLET

\* See item 4 and 7 under Stacking Pallet Instructions

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## IMPORTANT GENERAL HANDLING REQUIREMENTS

Before handling batteries, please read and adhere to all of the following requirements:

- Wear the appropriate personal protection equipment.
- Handle all returned batteries with the same responsible care as new batteries.
- Keep batteries upright at all times. Do not tip over on side or upside down.
- Do not throw or drop batteries. Put batteries carefully down on pallet.

## IMPORTANT PALLET SPECIFICATIONS

- Maximum pallet sizes: 44" x 48" or 40" x 48"
- Maximum weight per pallet: Approx. 3600 lbs.
- Maximum layers per pallet: 3
- Only lead-acid batteries may be returned, including AGM and gel lead-acid batteries
- Pallet must be constructed with a minimum of three bottom boards and durable enough to handle the battery load.
- Stack return battery pallet using pallet provided with new shipment if possible.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRAPPING PALLET

All batteries must be secured to the pallet with stretch wrap. Stretch wrap works best if it is pulled tight before stretching it around the corners. Figure 4 shows a properly wrapped pallet.

1. Start with the stretch wrap turned sideways to create a rope effect (see fig. 1). Wrap around the top layer twice.\*
2. Still using the rope effect, wrap the top layer twice\* again, crossing over the top each time to form an "X-pattern." This will pull the batteries towards the center to prevent batteries from falling off of the pallet, a DOT requirement.
3. Hold the stretch wrap open (see fig. 2 and 3), wrap around the bottom layer twice\*, being sure to catch the edges of the pallet.
4. Finally, after placing cardboard on top of the batteries, wrap around the top layer twice\* with the stretch wrap in the open effect and tear at the last corner.

\* Wrap as many times as necessary to stabilize the load

<sup>1</sup> Title 49 C.F.R. 173.159 Batteries, Wet

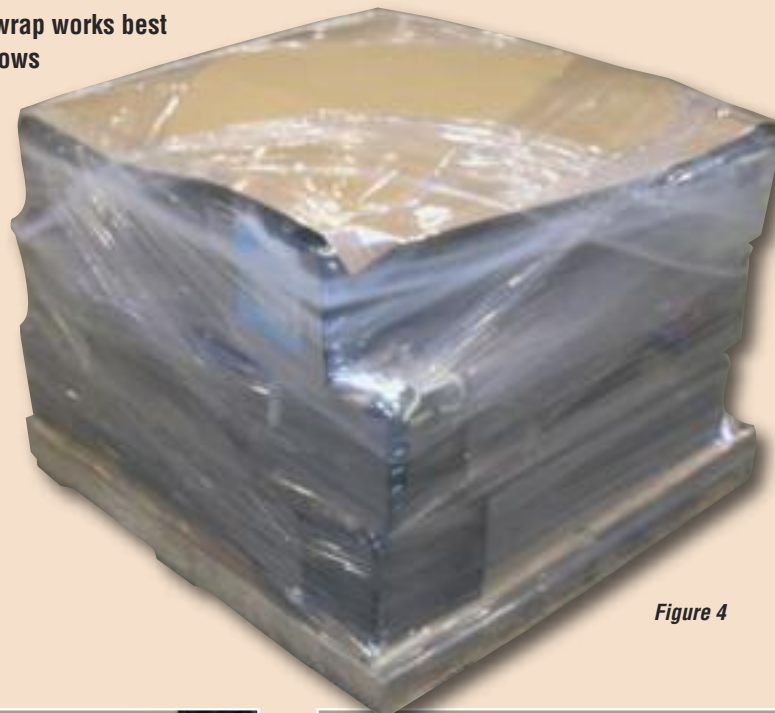


Figure 4



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR STACKING PALLET

1. Select a sturdy pallet with no broken or missing boards. Be sure there are no nails sticking up, which could puncture the batteries. Stack return battery pallet using pallet provided with new shipment if possible.
2. Place a layer of cardboard on the pallet to prevent the batteries from sliding off of the pallet.
3. Make the first layer of batteries level and as close together as possible. If some of the batteries are shorter, they should be placed in the center of layers. Any taller batteries should be placed on the top layer.
4. Place waffleboard (preferred) or sufficient cardboard (multiple sheets if necessary) between all layers, including the top layer of batteries to prevent the possibility of puncturing the batteries above and short circuit. Place cardboard on top of pallet.

5. Side terminal batteries must be stacked so the posts are facing away from each other and not facing towards the outside of the pallet. Side terminals must never touch.



6. Top posts must be positioned toward the outside of the pallet so the layer above it leans toward the center. Make sure that no batteries are overhanging the waffleboard or sheets of cardboard.



7. Stud post batteries (Marine, Group 31, Golf Car) should be on the top layer. If this is not possible, you will need extra layers of cardboard between the layers of batteries to prevent punctures. This is also important when stacking three layers high.



8. Damaged batteries that are not visibly leaking electrolyte must be put in heavyweight polyethylene plastic bags (minimum: 6 mil), properly sealed with plastic tie and placed in the middle of the top layer.



9. Lead wheel weights must be put in a plastic bucket and covered. The bucket shall be placed in the center of the top layer with the handle secured to avoid contact with battery terminals.

