



## SAFETY CIRCULAR 12/2017

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### SAFETY OF LITHIUM-ION BATTERY DEVICES

A recently reported incident involving a damaged DFES supplied electronic device that uses a lithium-ion battery as its energy source highlights the importance of observing the following safety precautions including:

- only using the device for its intended purpose
- keeping the device away from excessive heat
- not tampering with the device in any way including disassembly of the device.

Devices such as mobile phones, laptops, tablets and powerbanks may incorporate lithium-ion batteries.

If a device incorporating a lithium-ion battery is damaged in any way you need to isolate it from flammable materials prior to disposing of the battery in accordance with local government guidelines for battery disposal. Planet Ark <http://recyclingnearyou.com.au/> has a search mechanism for you to use to locate battery recycling locations within your local government area.

If a battery does catch fire:

- Avoid inhalation of smoke
- Extinguish with copious amounts of water (ideally submerge the device) or cover with soil.

#### Critical Message

Please ensure you adhere to the lithium-ion battery device safety guidelines.

If the lithium-ion battery or product casing is damaged in any way, **do not** use the device, isolate from flammable materials and dispose of the battery according to local government guidelines.

**LLOYD BAILEY** AFSM  
**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS**

Target Audience: DFES Personnel				
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O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				
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