

## Kongres Container

# Pack lithium battery trade



## Overview

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How will US tariffs affect Chinese lithium batteries in 2025?

U.S. tariffs on Chinese lithium batteries have become a critical factor shaping the global battery market in 2025. These tariffs directly impact lithium-ion batteries' cost, supply chain, and competitiveness, essential for electric vehicles (EVs), renewable energy storage, and consumer electronics.

Which country imports the most lithium batteries in the world?

China dominates the global lithium battery supply chain, producing over 75% of the world's lithium-ion battery cells. The U.S. imports nearly 70% of its lithium batteries from China, making tariffs on these products highly impactful. The U.S. aims to build a resilient domestic battery industry to support its clean energy goals.

What is the US tariff policy on lithium ion batteries?

In April 2025, the U.S. government updated its tariff policy on lithium-ion batteries imported from China. The current tariff structure includes: A 3.4% global tariff on lithium-ion batteries, regardless of origin. A Section 301 tariff targeting Chinese imports, currently at 7.5%, is scheduled to rise to 25% by January 2026.

Can You ship lithium hydride batteries internationally?

While not as strictly regulated as lithium batteries, there are still guidelines to follow when shipping dry cell and nickel-metal hydride batteries internationally. The safest way to ship batteries is within the device they power. Ensure terminals are protected (e.g., with tape or caps) and pack the device to prevent accidental activation.

Are lithium batteries safe to ship?

Improperly packaged lithium batteries can ignite, causing fires that are difficult to extinguish and pose a significant risk to the safety of transportation

workers and the general public. Other battery types, such as alkaline or nickel-metal hydride (NiMH), are generally considered safer to ship.

Are lithium battery imports facing increased customs scrutiny?

Industry data shows that importers of lithium battery systems now face increased customs scrutiny, with classification codes determining exact rates. Many battery packs assembled in the U.S. still rely on imported cathodes, anodes, and electrolytes in the electric vehicle sector.

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