

Testing Solutions for Li-Ion Batteries

Helmut Kipp

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Li-Ion Batteries – Different Sizes

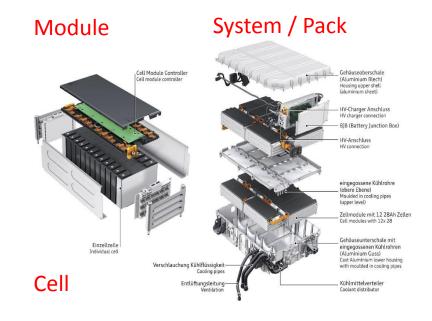
Lithium-Ion battery cells come

- In different sizes
- And shapes

Traction battery systems

- Are typically made of Cells which are combined in Modules
- The System or Pack consists out of modules
- Additionally the systems require
 - Structural enclosures
 - Management
 - **Electronics**
 - Cabling and cooling.







Many different chemical combinations:

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Research for solid state batteries increased in the last month

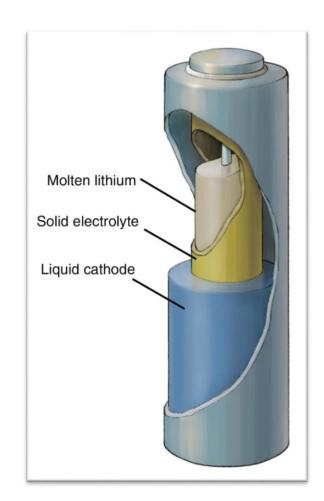
Global race for commercializing started

Polymer of Li Ion batteries are liquid or polymer (gel)

- Flammable
- ¬ Generate heat → cooling system necessary

Polymer in Solid-State batteries is solid: Ceramics, Lithium Sulfide, Glass

- Not flammable
- Cheaper in production
- Smaller in size
- Greater energy density
- Higher number of charging cycles
- Less influence regarding external temperatures





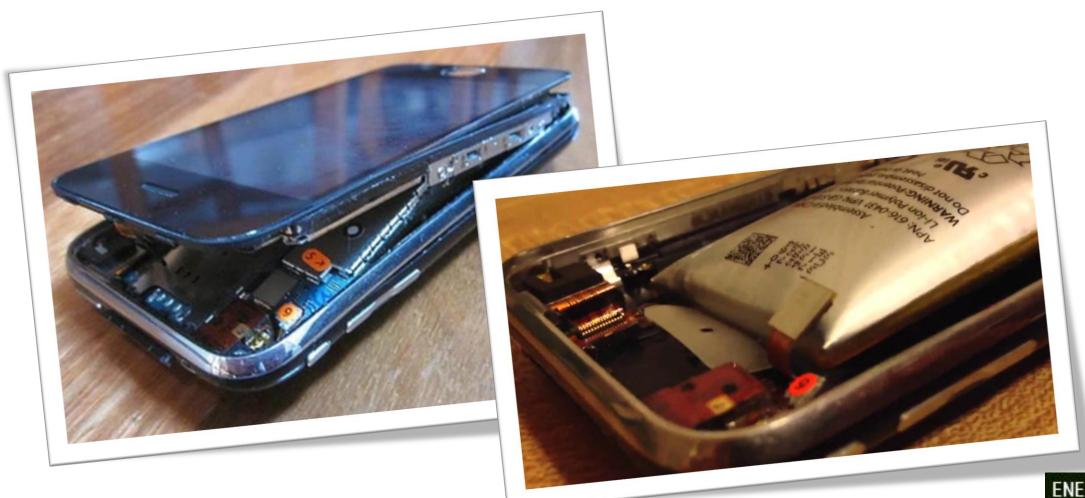




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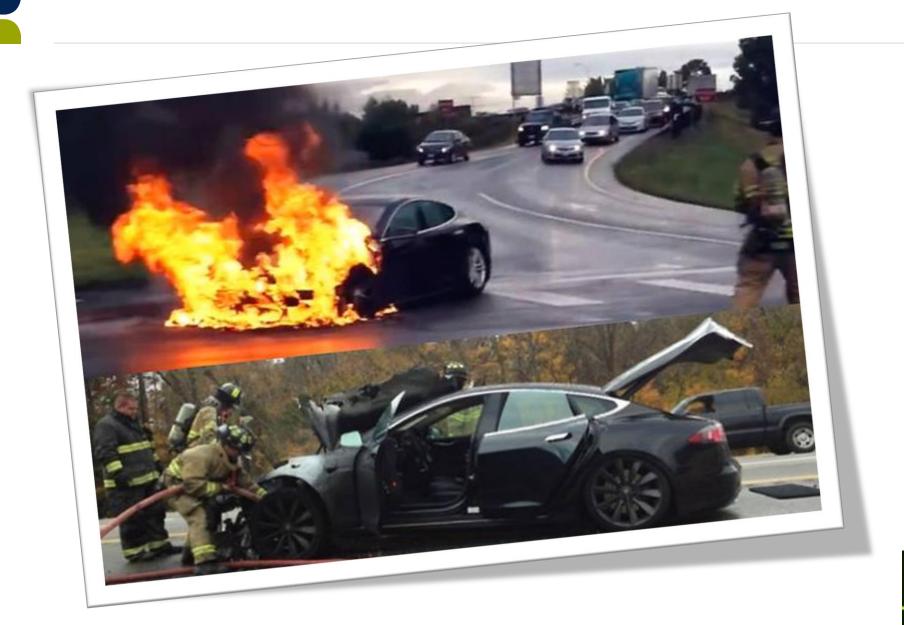




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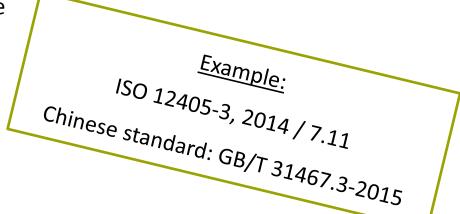


Top 3 most done mistakes with batteries:

- Too long in stock with no control
- Stock in wrong environmental conditions Temperature, Humidity ...
- Wrong charging wrong charger, charging process, charging time

Top 3 most dangerous mistakes with batteries:

- Overload or wrong loading
- Mechanical damage
- Overheating



No chance for not testing...

(Only Li-Ion batteries have over 40 different test specifications)



Several Test Categories for Li-Ion Batteries.

Environmental Stress

Humidity

Temperature

Thermal-Shock

Temp.-Changes

Vibration

Gas

Saltspray / Corrosion

•••

Visual Inspection

Leakage

Connectors

Geometry

Weight

•••

Electrical Tests

Capacity, Power, Resistence

Lifetime

Self discharge

Cold start

Safety

Short circuit

Power interrupt

Plug interrupt

Reset

Abuse tests

Bruise / Squashing

Fall

Deep discharge

Overload

Reversed Polarity

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Batteries with high energy level und huge performance level.

→ Potential dangers during test processes are increasing dramatically.

<u>Safety First</u> with test systems:

- 1) People
- 2) Buildings

Different possibilities and opinions regarding the security installations:







Advantages

- Lower investment / costs
- Possible damage of test equipment is accepted / acceptable
- Let the test equipment burn down and buy a new one

Disadvantages

- Danger for workers in the test area
- **Environmental harms**
- Stop of company processes / possible lost of money
- Maybe lost of important and expensive prototypes







European Council for Automotive R&D

- EUCAR



- Classified Security Level and results
 - Hazard Levels -

Advantages of this classification

- Everybody uses the same wording for the same principles/basics
- Common sense for risks, risk assessment and safety procedures
- Chance to response with modular safety equipment
- Standardization





Testing - With Security Installations: EUCAR Hazard Level

External influences, internal topics with results on the Li-Ion battery

Hazard Level	Description	Security Level and results
0	No effects.	No effect, no functional limitation
1	Start of passive security system.	No damage, no leakage, no gas leak, no fire, no explosion, no reaction, no thermal runaway. Cell broken reversible, repairs of security installations necessary.
2	Damage	No leakage, no gas leak, no fire, no explosion, no reaction, no thermal runaway. Cell broken irreversible, repairs of security installations necessary.
3	Leakage (Weight loss < 50%)	No gas leak, no fire, no explosion. Leakage of electrolyte <50%.
4	Gas leakage (Weight loss > 50%)	No fire, no explosion. Leakage of electrolyte >50%.
5	Fire	No explosion, no flying parts.
6	Fraction	No explosion, but flying parts of the active mass.
7	Explosion	Decomposition of battery cell.



Test Equipment INDOOR or OUTDOOR

Indoor

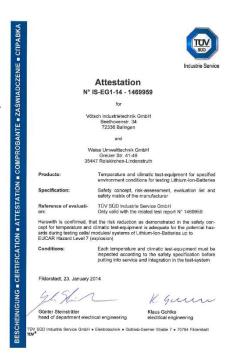
- Personal protection has to be guaranteed
- Security installation on the building in some cases necessary
- Necessary approval procedures
- Security to other facilities in the neighborhood has to be clarified
- Existing space can be used.





Modular Approach – Li-Ion Safety Equipment for Cabinets

	EUCAR Hazard Level				
	0-3	4	5	6	7
Optic and acoustic alarm -					
Electrical door lock -					
Pressure release flap		-			
Mechanical door lock and retaining clamps -		-			
Particle blocker -		-			
Fire detection via CO gas or temperature sensor -					
Flushing device with N ₂ or CO ₂					
N₂ permanent inertisation -					
O ₂ measuring unit					
Pressure resistant inner container -					
Burst disc -					-



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With Security Installations: EUCAR Hazard Level

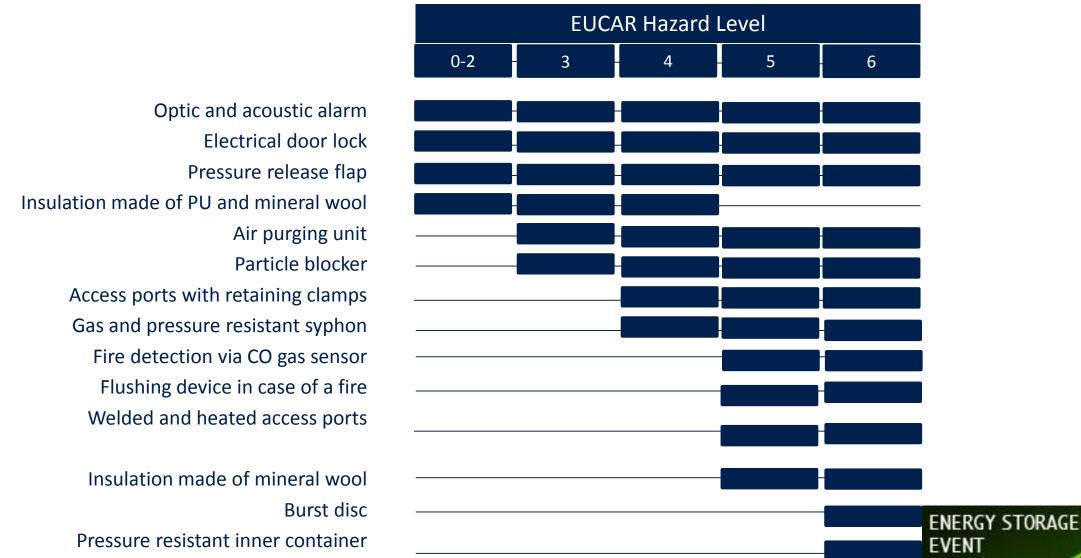
Hazard Level 0-3	Hazard Level 4	Hazard	Hazard Level 7	
Status display	Reversible pressure release flap	Permanent inertization using nitrogen or argon	Fire alarm system	Tolerable residual risk without further safety test
Electrical door lock	Mechanical door lock	Oxygen measurement	Fire detection via temperature measurement	
	Sealing plug with retaining clamp	Burst disc	Flushing device for inertization in case of fire	
	C'1034			







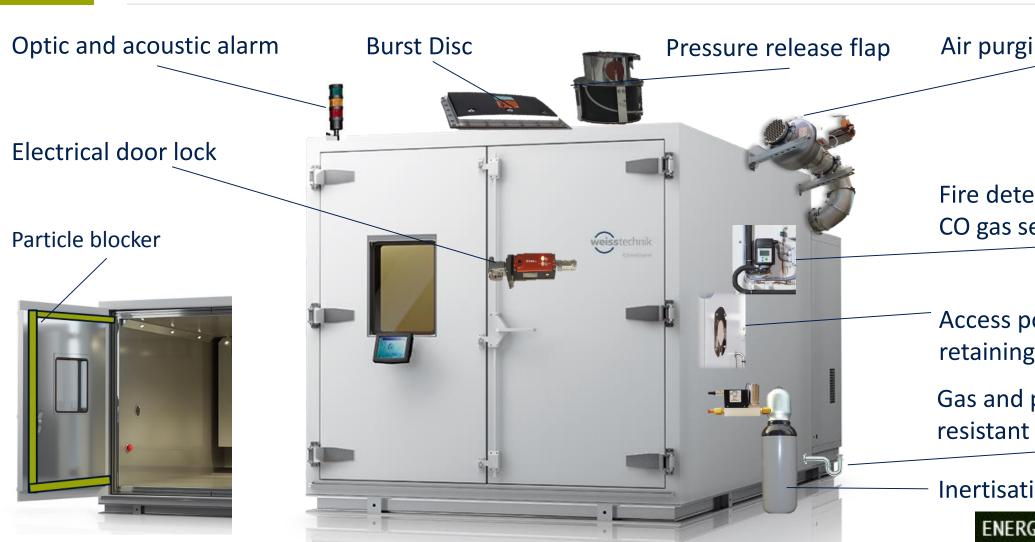
Modular Approach – Li-Ion Safety Equipment for Chambers



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Example: Chamber 16 m³ Hazard Level 6



Air purging unit

Fire detection via CO gas sensor

Access ports with retaining clamps

Gas and pressure resistant syphon

Inertisation

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Test Equipment INDOOR or OUTDOOR

Outdoor

- Container, bunker, separately building etc.
- Security installations only focused on this
- Easier and faster approval processes
- Shorter installation time in many cases
- Laws of fire protection are easer in realization
- Disadvantage: Need more space...

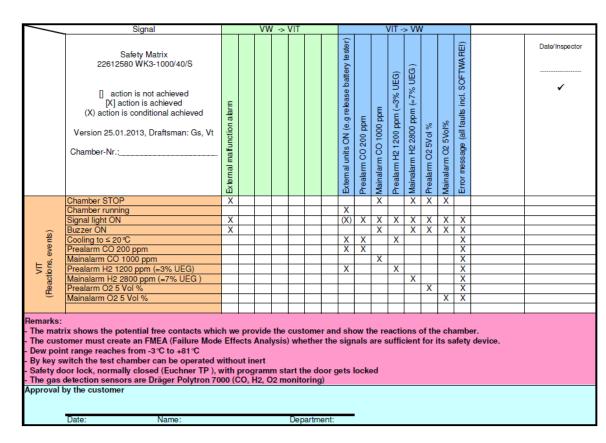




Don't forget the chamber is not alone - Supplemental Equipment

Communication and Interfaces.

- Software-Interface:
 - Ethernet
 - RS 232 (optional) for set values etc. via ASCII protocol
- Hardware-Interface:
 - Potential-free contact "Switching-off of test specimens" in Performance Level PLc (EN 13849-1)
- Additional signals (optional):
 - Fault signal lead onto potential-free contact, in Performance Level Pla
 - External malfunction alarm, in Performance Level PLc
 - Further additional signals and functions upon request



Signal exchange matrix



Standard LV 124 - Battery Packs for Cars

The standard describes requirements and test

- Temperature tests
- Climatic tests
- Dust test
- Salt spray test
- Stone chip test
- Thermal shock chamber
- Spray water system
- Splash water system
- Thermal shock immersion test
- Damp heat plus frost test
- 3-Axis vibration test



3-Axis vibration test system

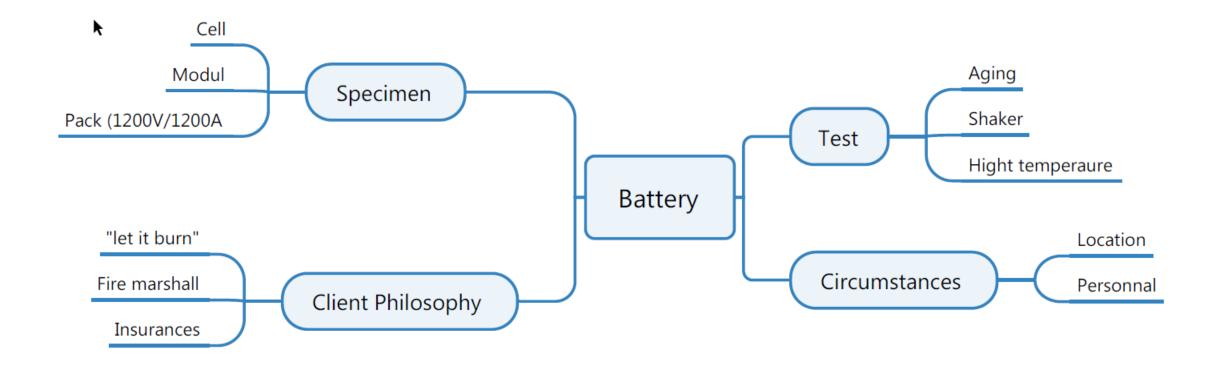


Splash water system











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