CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

A heat treatment method for a lithium-ion secondary battery, comprising placing lithium-ion secondary batteries in a plurality of metallic housing units, and heating the plurality of housing units where the lithium-ion secondary batteries are housed by a heating unit disposed outside the plurality of metallic housing units in an air atmosphere, wherein a temperature increase rate of the housing units where the lithium-ion secondary batteries are housed is regulated by retaining water together with the lithium-ion secondary batteries in some or all of the plurality of metallic housing units, and performing heating, and, wherein when the plurality of housing units where the lithium-ion secondary batteries are housed are heated by the heating unit, the housing unit where lithium-ion secondary batteries and water are retained and the housing unit where only lithium-ion secondary batteries are placed are arranged.

[Claim 2]

The heat treatment method for a lithium-ion secondary battery according to claim 1, wherein the housing units are formed of iron or stainless steel.

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[Claim 3]

The heat treatment method for a lithium-ion secondary battery according to claim 1, wherein the housing unit where water is retained has a lid member provided with a plurality of openings at an upper part thereof.