

## **EU Battery Directive (2006/66/EC) Amended by (2013/56/EU)**

In September 2006, the EU Battery Directive (2006/66/EC) was published in the European Official Journal. This Directive was amended in December 2013 (2013/56/EU). The directive details are summarized and split into four parts (Registration and Financing, Prohibition of Ingredients, Collection and Recycling Targets and Marking) below.

### **Registration and Financing**

- Entities (defined as producers in 2006/66/EC) placing portable batteries onto the market must register within each member state with official bodies (to be determined and agreed by national laws/decrees).
- The entities will also have to join a collection and recycling organization (CRO) and pay a fee based on the volume of batteries they place into the member state.
- The collection and recycling costs shall not be shown separately to the end-user at the time of sale.

### **Prohibition of Ingredients**

- Batteries shall not contain more than 0.0005% (5 parts per million or ppm) mercury by weight. Button cells may contain up to 2% mercury by weight.
- Batteries shall not contain more than 0.002% (20 ppm) cadmium by weight. Batteries intended for use in the following applications are exempt from the cadmium requirement:
  - Emergency and alarm system;
  - Emergency lighting; and
  - Medical equipment.

### **Collection and Recycling Targets**

- All portable batteries throughout European Member States are subject to collection.
- Collection targets have been established as
  - 25% of the batteries sold by 2012
  - 45% of the batteries sold by 2016
- The recycling efficiency of batteries collected shall be
  - 65% for lead acid batteries;
  - 75% for nickel cadmium batteries; and
  - 50% for all other types.

The methodology for calculation recycling efficiency is to be decided no later than March 2010.

### **Marking**

- All portable batteries placed onto the market after 26 September 2008 shall be marked with the crossed-out dustbin symbol.





- The dustbin symbol shall cover at least 3% of the area of the largest side of the battery, accumulator or battery pack up to a maximum size of 5 x 5 cm. For cylindrical cells, the symbol shall cover at least 1.5% of the surface area with a maximum size of 5 x 5 cm.
- Small batteries (AAA size and smaller), where the symbol would be smaller than 0.5 x 0.5 cm need not be marked, but a dustbin symbol measuring at least 1 x 1 cm shall be printed on the packaging.
- Batteries with more than 0.0005% (5 ppm) mercury, 0,004% (40 ppm) lead, or 0.002% (20 ppm) cadmium must also be marked with the chemical symbol (HG for mercury, Pb for lead, Cd for Cadmium) below the dustbin symbol.



- For electronic devices, the crossed-out dustbin symbol is already in place for the WEEE Directive (2002/96/EC). For appliances containing AAA or smaller batteries, there will be a need for including the battery dustbin (and chemicals wherever applicable):
  - On the packaging of the appliance;
  - Inside the instructions/manual; or
  - On the appliance itself.

Energizer batteries intended for the EU market shall contain the necessary markings but care must be taken to ensure batteries packaged with equipment contain the appropriate markings if the dustbin is not marked on the battery (AAA and smaller). There are additional minor requirements dealing with explanation of the markings for batteries sold in Europe.

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*Energizer*

