

~~EC Directive on~~ Requirements for Waste Batteries and Accumulators

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EU requirements: Directive 2006/66/EC on Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators (Directive 2006/66/EC) contains the rules regarding the ~~placing on the EU market~~ sale of batteries and accumulators in the EU, therefore it may apply to you if you sell batteries or products that contain batteries. This Directive deals with the prohibition ~~to place on selling~~ batteries and accumulators ~~on the market that contain~~ containing hazardous substances in the EU, as well as ~~establishing~~ establishes the rules for the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of waste batteries and accumulators. In this regard, the Directive sets out provisions on: collection schemes, financing obligations to manufacturers for the collection, treatment and recycling of the waste batteries, registration obligations for manufacturers and labelling requirements of batteries.

[Please see below for further information about EU requirements](#)

UK requirements: UK rules on waste batteries and accumulators are governed primarily by (i) the Batteries and Accumulators (Placing on the Market) Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/2164) (“BAPMR”); and (ii) Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/890) (“WBAR”) (together the “UK Regulations”). These UK Regulations contain the rules regarding the sale in the UK of batteries and accumulators, therefore they may apply to you if you sell batteries or products that contain batteries.

The UK Regulations contain a prohibition on selling batteries and accumulators containing hazardous substances in the UK, and establish rules for the collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of waste batteries and accumulators. In this regard, the UK Regulations set out provisions on: collection schemes, financing obligations to producers for the collection, treatment and recycling of the waste batteries, registration obligations for producers and labelling requirements of batteries. Different rules apply to goods you sell in: (1) Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales); and (2) Northern Ireland.

It is your responsibility to comply with the UK Regulations if you are selling products in the UK. If you also sell products on Amazon EU website(s), then you must also comply with national laws and regulations in EU Member States which implement Directive 2006/66/EC. ~~on Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators.~~

[Please see below for further information about UK Requirements.](#)

This material is for informational purposes only. It is not intended as legal advice. We encourage you to consult your legal counsel if you have questions about the laws and regulations concerning your product, ~~as well as consult the national laws and regulations transposing the Directive 2006/66/EC.~~ This material only reflects the position at the date of writing and requirements in the EU and/or the UK may change. You should refer to current UK Brexit guidance about your products (where available) to learn more about changes that may affect you from 1 January 2021.

I. EU Requirements

What products does the Batteries Directive apply to?

Directive 2006/66/EC applies to all types of batteries and accumulators ~~placed on~~ placed on ~~sold in~~ placed on the EU ~~market~~, regardless of their shape, volume, weight, material composition or use, unless they are used in equipment used to protect essential national security interests and equipment designed to be sent into space.

Restriction:

Directive 2006/66/EC restricts the ~~placing on sale in~~ placing on sale in the ~~market~~ market ~~EU~~ of: (a) all batteries or accumulators, whether or not incorporated into appliances, that contain more than 0.0005 % of mercury by weight; and (b) portable batteries or accumulators, including those incorporated into appliances, that contain more than 0.002 % of cadmium by weight. However, these prohibitions ~~do~~ not apply to portable batteries and accumulators intended for use in: (i) emergency and alarm systems, including emergency lighting; and (ii) medical equipment.

Labelling:

All batteries, accumulators and battery packs should be visibly, legibly and indelibly marked with the symbol of crossed-out ~~wheelie~~ wheelie ~~wheeled~~ bin, following the size and format determined in Directive 2006/66/EC, which is available on ~~the~~ European Commission website (see Additional Information below). This symbol indicates that the battery should not be disposed of as normal waste, but rather in specific recycling ~~centres~~ centers. In addition, batteries which contain more than a given amount of these metals (e.g., 0.0005 % mercury, 0.002 % cadmium and 0.004 % lead) should be marked with the chemical symbol for the metal concerned: Hg, Cd or Pb, also following the size and format determined in Directive 2006/66/EC. All portable (rechargeable and non-rechargeable) and automotive batteries ~~as well as~~ and accumulators should be marked with ~~their~~ its capacity.

Registration:

All manufacturers of batteries and accumulators ~~plus~~ and manufacturers of other products incorporating a battery or accumulator should be registered with the national authorities of batteries waste in the shipping destination country for each product type and brand.

Obligations of collection:

Manufacturers of batteries and accumulators ~~plus~~ and manufacturers of other products incorporating a battery or accumulator are responsible for the waste management of batteries and accumulators that they ~~place on~~ place on ~~sell in~~ sell in the ~~market~~ market ~~EU~~. Specifically, battery manufacturers, or third parties acting on their behalf, are obliged to finance any net costs arising from the collection, treatment and recycling of all waste portable batteries, waste industrial and automotive batteries and accumulators, through their own schemes or ~~by~~ participating in collective schemes. And distributors should take back waste portable batteries or accumulators when supplying new ones at no charge.

Provision of Information:

Appliances in which batteries and accumulators are incorporated ~~will~~shall be accompanied by instructions on how those batteries and accumulators can be safely removed by either the end-user or by independent qualified professionals. Where appropriate, the instructions shall also inform the end-user of the types of battery or accumulator incorporated into the appliance.

Manufacturers should also report periodically to the national authorities of batteries waste the amount of batteries and accumulators ~~placed on the~~sold in each member ~~state's~~market.state.

It is your responsibility to provide accurate and complete product information about batteries and products that contain batteries. If your products are regulated under Directive 2006/66, verify that your products are eligible for sale and that ~~they~~ comply with all the requirements regarding ~~battery~~batteries matters.

Additional Information

We strongly encourage you to visit the following ~~websites~~European Commission site for more information on Batteries and Accumulators:

- <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/batteries/index.htm>

~~General information about the batteries Directive in the European Commission's website:~~ For the compliance of the manufacturers and distributors obligations, we encourage you to contact an authorised batteries scheme.

II. UK Requirements

Where do the UK Regulations apply?

The UK Regulations apply to all products sold in the UK, but the provisions apply differently to Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales, "GB") and Northern Ireland. You can read more about the position in Northern Ireland ("NI") below.

What products do the UK Regulations apply to?

The UK Regulations apply to all types of batteries and accumulators, regardless of their shape, volume, weight, material composition or use, unless they are used in equipment used to protect essential national security interests and equipment designed to be sent into space.

Restriction:

The BAPMR restricts the sale in GB of: (a) all batteries or accumulators, whether or not incorporated into appliances, that contain more than 0.0005 % of mercury by weight; and (b) portable batteries or accumulators, including those incorporated into appliances that contain more than 0.002 % of cadmium by weight. However these prohibitions do

not apply to portable batteries and accumulators intended for use in: (i) emergency and alarm systems, including emergency lighting; and (ii) medical equipment.

Labelling:

All batteries, accumulators and battery packs should be visibly, legibly and indelibly marked with the symbol of crossed-out wheeled bin, following the size and format set out in Regulation 5 and Schedule 1 of the BAPMR. This symbol indicates that the battery should not be disposed of as normal waste, but rather in specific recycling centres. In addition, batteries which contain more than a given amount of these metals (e.g., 0.0005 % mercury, 0.002 % cadmium and 0.004 % lead) should be marked with the chemical symbol for the metal concerned: Hg, Cd or Pb, also following the size and format determined in Regulation 6 of the BAPMR. All portable (rechargeable and non-rechargeable) and automotive batteries and accumulators should be marked with their capacity.

Registration:

All producers of batteries and accumulators and producers of other products incorporating a battery or accumulator should be registered with the environmental regulator, for the relevant UK country. The environmental regulators are listed below:

- Environment Agency (England);
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency; and
- Natural Resources Wales

Obligations of collection:

Producers of portable batteries and accumulators and producers of other products incorporating a battery or accumulator are responsible for the waste management of batteries and accumulators that they sell in GB. Specifically, producers, or third parties acting on their behalf, are obliged to finance any net costs arising from the collection, treatment and recycling of all waste portable batteries, waste industrial and automotive batteries and accumulators, through their own schemes or participating in collective schemes. Further, distributors should take back waste portable batteries or accumulators when supplying new ones at no charge.

Provision of Information:

Appliances in which batteries and accumulators are incorporated shall be accompanied by instructions on how those batteries and accumulators can be safely removed by either the end-user or by independent qualified professionals. Where appropriate, the instructions shall also inform the end-user of the types of battery or accumulator incorporated into the appliance.

Producers should also report periodically to the environmental regulator for batteries waste, for the relevant UK country, the amount of batteries and accumulators sold in the UK by way of the National Packaging Waste Database.

It is your responsibility to provide accurate and complete product information about batteries and products that contain batteries. If your products are governed by the UK Regulations, you must verify that your products are eligible for sale and comply with all the requirements.

Northern Ireland

Please note that different rules apply in NI from 1 January 2021 as a result of the Northern Ireland Protocol. In particular, you should ensure that products meet EU requirements.

All producers of batteries and accumulators and producers of other products incorporating a battery or accumulator should be registered with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency.

Additional Information

We strongly encourage you to visit the following UK government site for more information on Batteries and Accumulators:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/regulations-batteries-and-waste-batteries>

For the compliance with producer obligations we encourage you to contact an authorized Batteries scheme.

We also encourage you to visit the Business Companion website, which contains guidance on UK product compliance rules:

- <https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/get-started>
- <https://www.businesscompanion.info/en/quick-guides/product-safety/batteries>