

Introduction to Waste Batteries Regulations & how it will affect you.

What are the regulations?

The **Waste Batteries and Accumulator Regulations** were introduced in 2009, determined to lessen the volume of batteries reaching landfill when they had reached their end of life, decreasing the effects of heavy metals on the planet. Collection, assortment, treatment and recycling of used battery materials have been outlined in the regulations for the UK and European to meet set targets.

Performing any of the activities below you will be committed as a manufacturer:

- Manufacture batteries.
- Import batteries (either independently or inside electrical equipment).

Supply batteries directly to households you may likewise be committed as a distributor.

What do I need to do?

Manufacturers.

Manufacturers that supply the UK market with batteries exceeding 1 tonne of portable batteries **you must:**

- Register with Batteries compliance scheme.
- Submit data submissions quarterly.
- Through the compliance scheme, finance the cost of the collection, treatment and recycling of batteries.

Manufacturers that supply the UK market which does not exceed 1 tonne of portable batteries **you must:**

- Register as a manufacturer, either through your compliance scheme or directly with the Environment Agency.
- Make submissions annually.

Distributors.

If you supply more than 32kg of batteries to end users per year, per store (excluding batteries sold within electrical equipment) **you must:**

- Offer collection of portable batteries in-store.
- Advertise clearly that battery recycling is available in-store.

WEEE symbol

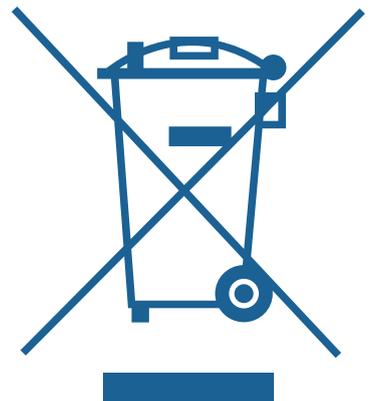
All batteries must be marked with the crossed out wheellie bin symbol (WEEE).

Pictured on the right.

The image **must** be apparent, clear, permanent and should cover:

- A minimum of 3% of the surface area of the battery for all non-cylindrical batteries
- A minimum of 1.5% of the surface area for all cylindrical batteries.

In these cases, the maximum size of the symbol should be no more than 5cm x 5cm. The symbol can be shown on the packaging if printing on the battery would be less than 0.5cm x 0.5cm.



Legislation and the steps you must take.

Approved or appropriate person

You **must** be an approved or appropriate person to sign applications for approval and registration and to submit data and statements of declaration of compliance. See the [Waste batteries and accumulators: technical guidance](#) on what constitutes an approved or appropriate person.

Use the delegation of [approved/appropriate person form](#) if you want to delegate to another person. Sign the form and send it to your [environmental regulator](#).

Portable battery manufacturer: register

Place more than 1 tonne a year on the market

You must pay for the collection, treatment and recycling of waste portable batteries. You do this by joining a battery [compliance scheme \(BCS\)](#) by 15 October before the start of the compliance year (calendar year). You pay the BCS an annual fee and it takes on your duties.

The BCS will:

- register you annually with the correct environmental regulator
- pay the environmental regulator £600 annually for each member
- send information to your environmental regulator about the batteries you placed on the market in the previous 2 years and the current year
- get evidence notes for the collection, treatment and recycling of waste portable batteries
- send information to your environmental regulator about the waste batteries they collect and deliver for treatment and recycling.

Tell your BCS within 14 days if you:

- need to make changes to your registration details
- are no longer a large portable battery producer

Place more than 1 tonne a year on the market

You must register with the [environmental regulator](#) of the UK country where your registered office is on the [National Packaging Waste Database \(NPWD\)](#).

Each year you must submit the tonnage and chemistry on the NPWD to confirm how many batteries you placed on the market in the previous year. This must be done by 31 January in the following year.

The annual charge is £30.

Tell your regulator if you're no longer a small portable battery producer within one month of the change.

Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE): batteries in products

If you place products containing batteries on the UK market, you will need to report separately the weight of:

- electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) you place on the market without batteries, as part of your [WEEE Regulations](#) duties.
- batteries in the EEE, as part of your [Waste Battery Regulations duties](#).

Even if your EEE does not fall under the WEEE Regulations you will still be a battery producer.

