RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING OF USED LEAD ACID BATTERIES

How to manage the environmental, financial and reputational risks

ABRI
Value Over Impact

Australian Battery Recycling Initiative

BE PART OF AN INDUSTRY THAT IS SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE

Implementing some basic requirements for the management of used lead acid batteries (ULAB*) will help you to:

- manage your business risks
- avoid legal prosecution
- protect the health and safety of workers and the general public
- avoid environmental damage from spills or accidents
- protect your corporate reputation.

AM I AT RISK?

Are you and your suppliers/carriers/recyclers meeting all legal requirements for storage and transport?

Ask for evidence that they have all of the necessary approvals and licences. Transporters should be able to show you their Waste Transport Licence and have a Class 8 corrosive placard on their vehicle.

ULAB are a controlled waste. A Waste Storage Licence and a Waste Transport Licence are required in most states and territories if the amount of batteries exceeds a minimum amount. Check the legal requirements with your local environmental protection agency (contacts are provided on page 3).

Approval may also be required for each storage site from the local Council and/or environmental protection agency.

The interstate transport of ULAB requires:

- a consignment authorisation from the environmental protection agency in the destination state or territory
- a waste transport certificate from the agency in the originating state or territory and this must accompany the ULAB load in transit
- a permit/licence for the vehicle transporting the batteries.

Chain of Responsibility requirements under road transport laws now mean that everyone involved in the road transport supply chain - the consignor, consignee, packer, loader and receiver, as well as the driver and operator – can be held responsible for breaches of road laws and may be legally liable.

The export of ULAB is regulated by the Australian Government under the Basel Convention and requires an Export Licence.

Do you and your carrier have adequate insurance?

If you don't have the right insurance you may not be covered in the case of an accident involving ULAB.

Check that you or your carrier have:

- motor insurance with a dangerous goods extension
- public and products liability insurance with a lead inclusion.

Are you protecting the health and safety of your workers?

Make sure that you follow manufacturers' guidelines for safe handling and storage.

- Store in cool dry conditions.
- Use correct lifting procedures when moving batteries.
- Don't place metal objects on top of batteries.
- Don't allow sparks or flames near batteries.
- Make sure workers wear protective clothing.
- Clean up spills immediately.

For more information download a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) from one of the manufacturer's web sites.

* This guidance applies to automotive and industrial lead acid batteries (excludes smaller handheld batteries)

MANAGE YOUR BUSINESS RISKS

Are the batteries packaged correctly?

Ensure that the batteries you receive or supply are packaged appropriately to meet legal requirements and best practice standards.

Batteries must be packed securely to:

- protect against damage and spills
- avoid the inconvenience and cost of batteries being rejected at the recycling facility.

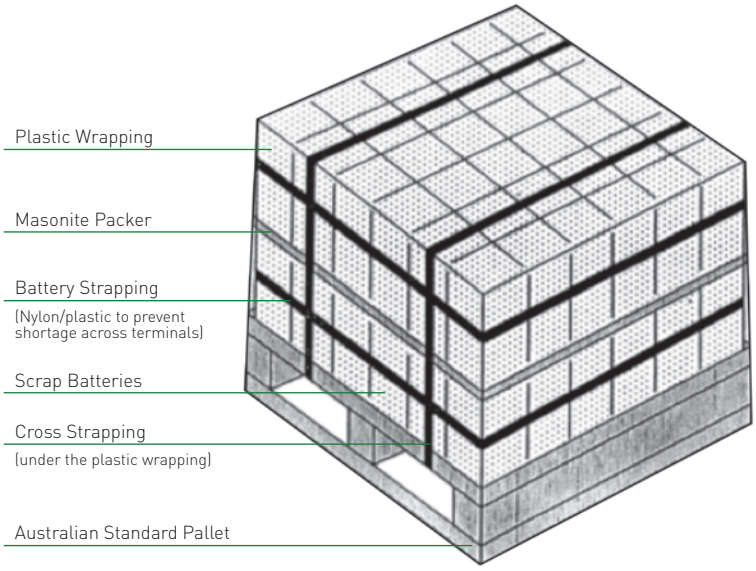
Steel strapping is **not** acceptable, due to the potential risk of fire from short-circuits.

ABRI's comprehensive packaging standard for used lead acid batteries can be downloaded from www.batteryrecycling.org.au.

Are you managing all of your financial, legal and reputational risks?

If you accept cash payments from illegal exporters, you are exposing your company to unnecessary risks.

- Know where your batteries are going – they should not be exported.
- Ask for evidence of legal compliance and adequate insurance.



Contact relevant government agencies for more information on legal and environmental requirements for hazardous or controlled wastes

NSW	Office of Environment & Heritage	www.environment.nsw.gov.au
Victoria	Environment Protection Authority Victoria	www.epa.vic.gov.au
Queensland	Dept. Environment & Resource Management	www.derm.qld.gov.au
ACT	Dept. Environment, Climate Change, Energy & Water	www.environment.act.gov.au
Tasmania	Dept. Primary Industries, Water & Environment	www.environment.tas.gov.au
Western Australia	Dept. Environment & Conservation	www.dec.wa.gov.au
South Australia	Environment Protection Authority South Australia	www.epa.sa.gov.au
Northern Territory	Dept. Natural Resources, Environment, the Arts & Sport	www.nt.gov.au
Australian Government	Dept. Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population & Communities	www.environment.gov.au

ABRI members include battery manufacturers, consumer electronics suppliers, recyclers, government agencies and environmental organisations.

ABRI MEMBERS SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING

AusBatt Recycling

Australian Refined Alloys Pty Ltd

Brisbane City Council

Bunnings Group Limited

Canon Australia

Century Yuasa Batteries Pty Ltd

Clean Up Australia

Close the Loop Ltd

Club Assist Pty Ltd

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

Exide Technologies

Hydromet Corporation Limited

Macintype Design

MRI (Aust) Pty Ltd

Office of Environment and Heritage

orbitas resource recovery

Planet Ark

Renewed Metal Technologies

Sanyo Oceania Pty Ltd

SITA Environmental Solutions

Spectrum Brands

Supercharge Batteries

Sustainability Victoria

Toshiba (Australia) Pty Ltd

Australian Battery Recycling Initiative

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BusinessRecycling.com.au

PLANET ARK

1300 763 768

Visit BusinessRecycling.com.au to find local recycling options, for information and resources or to list a recycling service.

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www.batteryrecycling.org.au