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## Dealers'/distributors' management of batteries and accumulators

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DPA-System is short for Danish Producer Responsibility System. DPA-System is in charge of administrative tasks associated with the rules on producer responsibility under Danish environmental law regarding waste from electrical and electronic equipment, end-of-life batteries and accumulators, and end-of-life vehicles.

Producer responsibility for these waste types has authority in the Danish Environmental Protection Act. This Act translates into three Statutory Orders for the different waste types: the WEEE Order, the Battery Order, and the End-of-life Vehicles Order (the current statutory texts can be found on [www.dpa-system.dk](http://www.dpa-system.dk)).

The Danish Statutory Orders take offset in three EU directives for the same waste types: the so-called WEEE Directive, the Batteries Directive, and the ELV Directive. Also these directives with exact titles and dates can be found on [www.dpa-system.dk](http://www.dpa-system.dk).

Producer responsibility rests on the principle that each producer or importer assumes responsibility for collection and management of WEEE, waste batteries, and end-of-life vehicles to the effect that products becoming waste are managed in an environmentally correct manner, with the highest possible utilisation of resources contained in such products.

Producers and importers are in the following referred to as *producers* as the rules applying to both types are the same.

In general, the following abbreviations are used: WEEE for waste electrical and electronic equipment, BAT for batteries and accumulators, and ELV for end-of-life vehicles.

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In pursuance of the rules on producer responsibility for batteries/accumulators this document describes distributors' duty of information and how they should manage batteries/accumulators if they decide to take these products back when they become waste.

## **Background**

In connection with the sale of batteries and accumulators distributors, dealers and businesses can choose to take back waste batteries and accumulators from the end-users.

In the take-back and treatment of waste batteries and accumulators businesses must make sure that they are treated safely and in compliance with the special requirements set up for management of waste batteries and accumulators. For example, it is important to note that waste batteries and accumulators must not be sent to landfill or incineration.

This document describes how businesses must manage waste batteries as well as their duty to inform end-users about the impacts on the environment from batteries and accumulators, recycling options and similar issues.

Note! Dealers and distributors must not deal in batteries and accumulators from producers and importers that are not registered under the producer responsibility scheme in the national register of DPA-System.

## **Dealers'/distributors' duty of information**

Dealers/distributors shall ensure that end-users of batteries and accumulators are informed of the following in sales and information material, including instruction manuals or at the point of sale:

1. Potential impacts on the environment and human health of substances used in batteries and accumulators,
2. Expediency of not disposing of waste batteries and accumulators together with unseparated household waste and of participating in separate collection schemes to facilitate treatment and recycling,
3. The collection and recycling schemes at the disposal of end-users,
4. The role of end-users in connection with recycling of waste batteries and accumulators, and
5. The meaning of the crossed-out wheeled bin symbol and the chemical symbols of Hg (mercury), Cd (cadmium) and Pb (lead) that must be found on the products if they contain more than 0.0005 % of mercury, more than 0.002 % of cadmium or more than 0.004 % of lead, (cf. Statutory Order on the import and sale as well as export of batteries and accumulators, section 6(1) and (2)).

Read more about marking of products on the DPA-System website.

## **Where can dealers/distributors deliver waste portable batteries?**

Dealers/distributors receiving waste portable batteries and accumulators must use the collection schemes established by the producers. As a general rule this means that portable batteries must be delivered to the collective schemes for portable batteries.

Contact information for collective schemes can be found on the DPA-System website.

Alternatively, portable batteries must be delivered to the collect or brings scheme of the municipality, including recycling centres.

## **Where can dealers/distributors deliver waste industrial batteries?**

Dealers/distributors taking back waste industrial batteries or accumulators must deliver these to one of the sites described below:

- To collection schemes established by producers as part of the producer responsibility. This is either a collective scheme assuming take-back logistics for industrial batteries or directly to the producer. Note that not all collective schemes assume take-back logistics for industrial batteries. Therefore, it will often be necessary to contact the producer directly. Collective schemes managing waste industrial batteries can be found on [the DPA-System website](#).
- To the local authority. The local authority can inform you about recycling companies receiving batteries. This will be a commercial agreement between the recycling company and the distributor.
- To the recycling industry. Dealers/distributors can find themselves a registered recycling company or an approved and registered company collecting recyclable industrial waste and then enter an agreement about delivery of batteries.

The producer must mark his industrial batteries in a way that the distributor and the end-user can identify who produced or imported the battery or the accumulator into Denmark.

Dealers/distributors of industrial batteries must submit information to the end-user about who produced or imported the industrial battery.

## **Where can dealers/distributors deliver waste automotive batteries?**

Dealers/distributors taking back waste automotive batteries must deliver these to one of the sites described below:

- To collection schemes established by producers as part of the producer responsibility. This is either a collective scheme assuming take-back logistics for automotive batteries or directly to the producer. Note that not all collective schemes assume take-back logistics for automotive batteries. Collective schemes managing waste automotive batteries can be found on [the DPA-System website](#).

- To the local authority. The local authority can inform you about recycling companies receiving automotive batteries. This will be a commercial agreement between the recycling company and the distributor.
- To the recycling industry. Dealers/distributors can find themselves a registered recycling company for automotive batteries and then enter an agreement about delivery of batteries.

The producer must mark his automotive batteries in a way that the distributor and the end-user can identify who produced or imported the battery into Denmark.

Dealers/distributors of automotive batteries must submit information to the end-user about who produced or imported the automotive battery.

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