

We recycle batteries.

We source discarded batteries to European recycling facilities approved by EU.

EU recycling rate standard is:

Lead acid batteries:	65%
Nickel cadmium batteries:	75%
Others:	50%

Recycling facilities that do not meet this standard will not be approved by national governments. The control regime is that national governments report back to the EU Commission in Brussels. We only source to approved facilities.

For Lead acid and NiCd batteries the purpose of recycling is to reuse the heavy metals in a closed loop. For other batteries that do not contain the heavy metals lead, cadmium and mercury the purpose of recycling is to meet the standard of 50% recycling rate, not necessarily meaning that the end product can be commercialized. This applies for Alkaline batteries.

In the main the applied recycling technologies are relatively uniform for the same category of batteries and typical recycling rates at the facilities we make use of are:

Lead acid batteries:	65%+ (lead recycled and reused)
NiCd batteries:	75%+ (cadmium, iron and nickel recycled and reused)
NiMh batteries:	50%+ (iron and nickel recycled and reused)
Li ion batteries:	50%+ (iron and cobalt recycled and reused)
Alcaline:	50%+ (output largely a non commercial metal powder)

Lithium: Presently a not recyclable technology

In the main plastic and paper components are subject to energy recovery whilst metals are recycled and reused as product or as material source for iron and metals industries. For plastic some facilities have chosen material recovery instead of energy recovery.

Now and then we receive questions about recycling rates for the different categories of batteries. Recycling rate can be so many things. It would take us too far to go in depth into this issue here, but as a general account of the EU approved facilities we make use of we can state as follows:

Lead acid batteries:	65 – 90% material recovery, 10 – 35% energy recovery
NiCd batteries:	80% material recovery, 20% energy recovery
NiMh batteries:	90% material recovery, 10% energy recovery
Li ion batteries:	90% material recovery, 10% energy recovery

- Some of the environmentally best performing European lead recycling facilities have chosen energy recovery of the plastic components, in which case the material recycling rate is 65%.
- Output from recycling Alkaline batteries are mainly a non commercial “black mass”.
- From all recycling processes comes 1 – 2% slag that goes to landfill.

The process of the EU Commission to have the accounting formula for material and energy recovery standardized is not yet completed. It will no doubt take some time and we follow up on this issue.

Please do find below an overview of the recycling facilities we use:

Lead Acid batteries: Boliden Bergsøe, Sweden
H.J.Enthoven, Great Britain
Johnsons Controls Autobaterias, Spain

NiCd/NiMh batteries: Saft, Sweden
NiCd/NiMh/Li ion batteries: SNAM, France
Alcaline batteries: Valdi, France

We administer the producer register for importers of batteries to Norway. Every participating importer complies with government requirements related to registration. Producers and importers are obliged to account for what they are “putting on the Norwegian market” and we do it on their behalf. Any importer of batteries may participate in the producer register without obligation to join the battery return scheme. Participating in the producer register is free of charge. The purpose of the register is to serve national authorities with information needed for their reporting to EU. We do not ask for information beyond the minimum requirements from EU to each national state. The producer register is a compliance scheme equally serving the battery trade and the society.

The minimum requirements are: Name of the producer
Address of the producer
Contact person at the producer
National tax number of the producer
Indication of type of batteries; portable, industrial, automotive
Date of application for registration
Signature
The battery categories are to be reported in weight by the minimum requirements stated below:

PORTABLE: Alkaline/Zinc carbon
Lithium
Zinc Air/Mercuric Oxide/Silver Oxide (button cells)
Others

.....

Nickel Cadmium
Nickel Metal Hydride
Lead
Lithium ion/Lithium Polymer
Others

.....

INDUSTRIAL: Lead Acid

Nickel Cadmium
Others

AUTOMOTIVE:

Lead Acid
Nickel Cadmium
Others

By prior arrangement importer of batteries may report his input in units, but weight is required for the report to authorities. The purpose of it all is to monitor the collection and recycling rate for the respective categories of batteries at national and European level, with focus on the heavy metals mercury, lead and cadmium. We arrange for efficient routines for the battery importers with the ambition to make it all as simple as possible.

We hope information above gives answer to questions asked and we will of course with pleasure answer any further enquiries.

Best regards

Frode Hagen