



WHAT HAPPENS TO THE USED BATTERIES ONCE I'VE COLLECTED THEM?

Battery Compliance Schemes (BCS) will collect the used batteries from your premises free of charge. You cannot charge the BCS for the collected batteries. To arrange collection, you can contact any of the approved BCSs and discuss arrangements with them. The scheme must contact you within 21 days to agree a collection date. Contact details for the approved Battery Compliance Schemes are available through the VCA website at - www.vca.gov.uk

You also have the option of using your own delivery vehicles to transport collected used batteries to appointed consolidation points ('backhauling'). Requirements associated with this can be found in the Government Advisory Note. A link to this document is available through the VCA website at - www.vca.gov.uk

WHAT IF I SUPPLY LESS THAN 32KG A YEAR BUT WANT TO COLLECT BATTERIES?

You can still collect used batteries if you wish to. However, if you sell less than 32kg of batteries per year, you are not entitled to free collection by a BCS, although they must accept used batteries from you. We recommend that before collecting waste batteries, you talk to a BCS about how you can dispose of them for recycling.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I AM A DISTANCE SELLER?

If you supply over 32kg a year of portable batteries over the internet, via mail order or telesales, you are a distance seller and must also provide a take-back facility and inform your customers of the facility.

There are a number of possibilities available to you to meet your legal obligations. You can provide publicly accessible facilities at the premises from which you dispatch or take the order of batteries, e.g., your warehouse or office. You could also direct your customers to your shops if these provide take-back or provide business customers with a bin to deposit waste batteries and collect them from their premises when making a delivery. The FAQ document for distributors has further details and is available from the VCA website. For any method you choose, you will need to fully understand the roles and responsibilities on those that store and transport waste portable batteries and should read the Advisory Note on these issues, also available on the VCA website.

ENFORCEMENT BODY

Defra appointed VCA to enforce the requirements on distributors with effect from 1 February 2010.

WEEE REGULATIONS

Please also be aware that if you supply new battery operated products to the public, you may also be classed as a distributor under the WEEE Regulations. The distributor take back element of the WEEE Regulations are also enforced by the VCA. If you would like to know more about your obligations in this area, please refer to the VCA website or use the help line number on the back of this leaflet.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The following list is not meant to be exhaustive but provides some good initial contact points:

VCA, for general advice and information:

Internet - www.vca.gov.uk
Help Line - 0844 8000 819
Email - batteries@vca.gov.uk

DEFRA, for information on the original legislation:

Internet - www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/producer/batteries

Environment Agency:

Internet - www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/regulation/101529.aspx

Scottish Environment Protection Agency:

Internet - www.sepa.org.uk

Northern Ireland Environment Agency:

Internet - www.ni-environment.gov.uk

Department for Business Innovation and Skills:

Internet - www.bis.gov.uk



REGULATIONS ON RECYCLING PORTABLE BATTERIES

INFORMATION FOR DISTRIBUTORS



