

The Batteries and Accumulators world - for consumers

What are Batteries and Accumulators (BA) and Waste Batteries and Accumulators (WBA)?

The applicable law (article 2 of the Legislative decree no. 188/08) divides them into 3 types:

- c) "portable battery or accumulator": any battery, button cell, battery pack or accumulator that is sealed, can be hand-carried and is neither an industrial accumulator nor an automotive accumulator; for instance batteries and accumulators contained in many electrical and electronic appliances of every-day use: AAAA batteries, 6v batteries, button cells, mobile phone batteries, portable PC batteries, electrical tools batteries, toys batteries, etc.
- e) "automotive accumulator": any battery or accumulator used as automotive starter, for lighting or ignition power;
- f) "industrial accumulator": any battery or accumulator designed exclusively for industrial or professional uses or used in any type of electric vehicle;
- g) Waste Batteries and Accumulators are precisely the waste of batteries and accumulators, used or no longer necessary.

The new collection system for portable waste batteries and accumulators: how to behave?

The new system for the collection of portable WBA grants a service for the collection (and subsequent treatment) of portable WBA from the authorized municipal collection centres (supermarkets, commercial centres, etc.), through the provision of specific containers. It is thus possible to get rid of this type of waste for free and without any obligation to purchase new batteries or accumulators.

Who finances the waste batteries and accumulators handling system?

The regulation provides that battery and accumulator producers finance all operations relative to the collection and proper treatment of the WBA (Legislative decree no. 188/08).

It is important to ensure a proper handling of the WBA, thus avoiding to dispose of them together with the other waste or dumping them into natural habitats where such waste badly pollutes the air, the water, the soil and represents a serious danger to human health.

Where do waste batteries and accumulators go?

Waste batteries and accumulators shall be conferred into specific containers and then transported to the authorised facilities where, depending on their group, are treated accordingly by means of different processes. In this way the dispersion of hazardous gases and toxic powders is avoided and metals, glass and plastics can be recovered and reused in new manufacturing processes.



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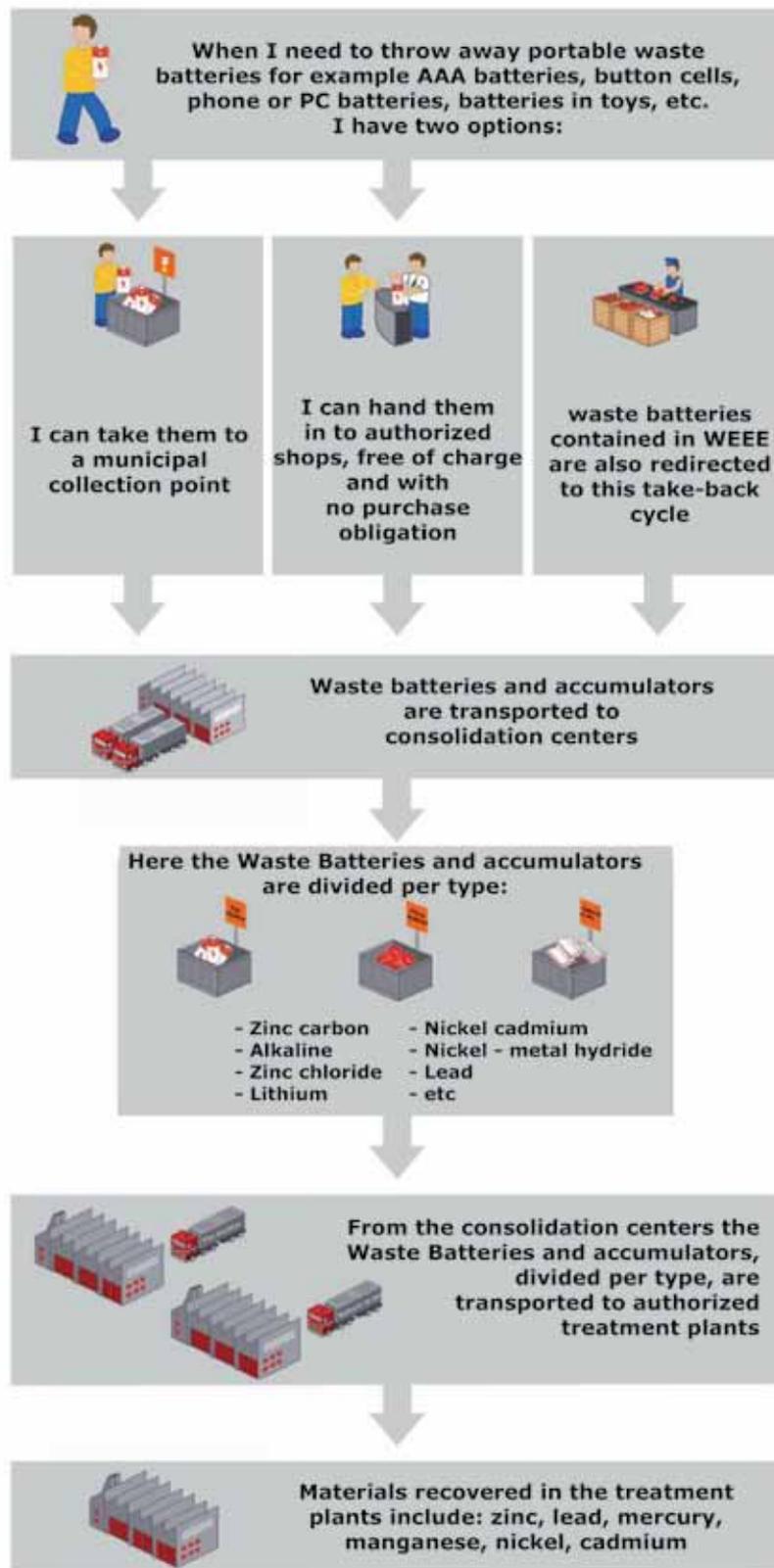
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The Take-Back Cycle of Portable Waste Batteries and Accumulators



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