

NEW EUROPEAN BATTERY REGULATION EU 2023/1542



OVERVIEW

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The EU Battery Regulation (Battery Regulation EU 2023/1542) replaces the previous Battery Directive and introduces several important changes. As a key component of the Green Deal, which aims to achieve climate neutrality in the EU by 2050, this regulation sets higher standards on the sustainability, performance, and labelling of batteries.

The new European Battery Regulation aims to regulate the entire life cycle of batteries, from the sustainable extraction of raw materials to disposal and recycling. It is more comprehensive than the previous directive and came into effect on February 18, 2024.

The regulation covers all battery types and introduces two new categories, in addition to the existing three: Low-Voltage (LV) batteries (for light transport vehicles) and batteries for electric vehicles. Key focuses include reducing hazardous substances, promoting environmentally friendly disposal, and increasing battery collection rates. The regulation establishes waste management standards and requires the separate collection and treatment of batteries.

Manufacturers are required to prepare technical documentation, register in the respective database, label batteries, and meet minimum durability and performance standards. Additional regulations include ensuring the socially and environmentally responsible extraction of raw materials, implementing a digital product passport, providing information on CO2 emissions, ensuring minimum recycled content, and allowing for the removability and replaceability of batteries. Economic operators with an annual turnover of over 40 million euros are subject to special due diligence obligations.

For all battery categories, manufacturers and importers must complete the EU conformity procedure, including affixing the CE mark and issuing a certificate of conformity.