

„S.I.A.P.” Sp. z o.o.[Ltd.] z with registered office in Gliwice – manufacturer of batteries, rechargeable batteries, cells.

The purpose of our campaign is to inform the users on the noxious effect of waste products on the environment. The main aim we set to ourselves as the manufacturer of batteries and rechargeable batteries is to improve the coordination of rechargeable and ordinary battery collection from dispersed waste generation points – informing on the units accepting waste rechargeable and ordinary batteries, making the users aware of the proper handling of waster batteries and rechargeable batteries.

To support the users who approach the natural environment with care and wish to segregate their waste, we have prepared this pro-ecological leaflet.

It is to increase the ecological awareness of the battery and rechargeable battery users, drawing their attention to human health hazards and become familiar with the labels on such products.

The effect of the substances used in batteries and rechargeable batteries on the environment and human health is immense in case of non-observance of the principles of storage and recycling of used batteries and rechargeable batteries.

So we need to know the number of heavy metals and toxic substances contained in a battery or rechargeable battery with corroded enclosure. They include without limitation:

- iron, zinc, graphite, ammonium chloride, copper, potassium hydroxide, nickel, lithium and cadmium.

In addition the batteries contain tar, glass, silica, paper and foil, and even hydrogen. The health hazards exist most of all due to the toxic effect of heavy metals (lead, cadmium and mercury), but also the acids or bases applied to prepare the electrolyte have caustic and corroding effect (with mechanical unsealing of the battery human body might be exposed to electrolyte burns). The other compounds may also be hazardous when disposed to the environment or digested by a human system in higher concentrations.

To illustrate the environment pollution scale, please note the examples below:

- one AA battery permanently pollutes 1 cubic meter of soil,
- one watch battery containing silver contaminates between 5000 and 50 000 liters of water,
- one battery in compost facilities causes the intoxication of the whole batch of compost.

We recommend selective collection.

The commonly applied practice is the penetration of waste batteries and rechargeable batteries, especially small-sized ones, to municipal waste dumping grounds and in consequence disposing of them on municipal dumping grounds. Used and expired batteries and rechargeable batteries that have not been selectively

collected earlier on, represent 2% of the municipal waste bulk. Waste batteries and rechargeable batteries are of high raw material value. Subject to recycling processes, they represent significant assets protecting natural raw material resources.

Selected out of the total waste bulk, the batteries have a chance to be recycled by specialist companies providing immense benefit to the natural environment!

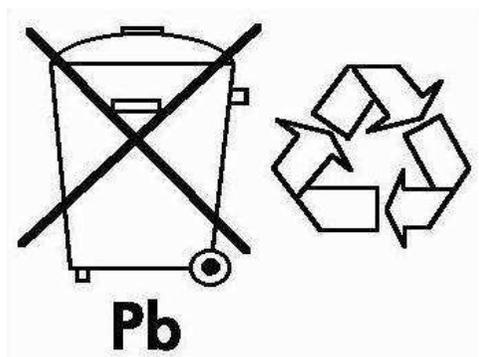
Currently, collecting primary and recharged batteries functions very poorly in Poland, actually it is incidental (schools, municipalities, retailers). Therefore, as the manufacturer of rechargeable and ordinary batteries we wish to present you a few methods of effective collection of waste and free-of-charge return such waste to appointed collection unit where it is to be treated properly:

- Schools, Municipality Office – collection of used batteries
- Servicing units and auto-motive part shops – collection of used rechargeable batteries,
- Manufacturers of rechargeable batteries, cells and batteries – free-of-charge collection of used rechargeable batteries and cells;
- Specialist companies dealing in disposal and recycling/neutralization of industrial waste.

The addresses of the selective collection units for rechargeable and ordinary batteries are published on the websites of your cities.

REMEMBER: putting used batteries and rechargeable batteries in a bin together with other waste and their neutralization or incineration outside the facilities adapted thereto is strictly forbidden.

Explanation of the pictograms labeled on batteries and rechargeable batteries:



Cd – Cadmium

Pb – Lead

Hg – Mercury

← **the pictograms define selective waste collection**

***Recycling** – one of complex methods of natural environment protection. Its task is to reduce the consumption of natural raw materials and the waste volume. Recycling is a system of multiple use of the same materials, in various material and

utility goods. Thus, the non-renewable resources are protected and the generation of waste is simultaneously restricted. Otherwise such waste would have to be stored or neutralized somewhere. Indirectly the environment is also protected through the reduction of energy resources consumption. Otherwise they would have to be used in the processes of acquisition of the raw materials from the nature and the subsequent waste management.

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