

# Evaluation of the Directive 2006/66/EC

## Initial results of the evaluation study

### No 5: Consumer information

Trinomics/Oeko-Institut/E&Y

Brussels, 14 March 2018



# Agenda

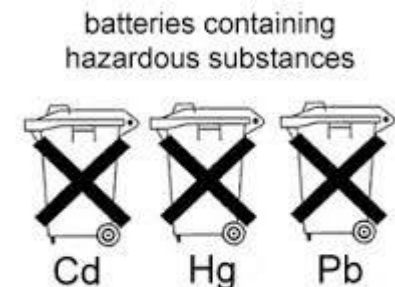
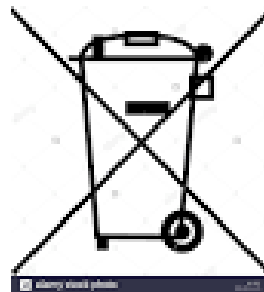
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1. Current Status
2. Effectivity of information provided
3. Information for consumers is not sufficient
4. Initial conclusions
5. Discussion

# 1. Current status

MS shall ensure that end-users are informed of (Art. 20):

- Potential effects of substances used in batteries on the environment and human health;
- The importance of not disposing of waste batteries in municipal waste and of participating in the separate collection of waste batteries to facilitate proper treatment and recycling;
- The available collection and recycling schemes;
- Their role in contributing to the recycling of waste batteries;
- The meaning of symbols:



Cd = battery contains cadmium  
Hg = battery contains quicksilver  
Pb = battery contains lead

## 2. Effectivity of information provided

- Suitability of information for end-users differs between MS;
- End-consumers not always aware of risks related to substances used in batteries and related risks:
  - importance of separate collection and risks related to “new” battery types.
- Information on labelling does not contribute enough to the clarity of this mechanism: Where campaigns are held there is temporary increase in collected battery amounts
- Multiple stakeholders state that information on how and where to dispose of waste batteries is often lacking (differences between MS):
  - consumers do not know where to take waste batteries and
  - consumers end up disposing of them in municipal waste bins.
- Stakeholders think that battery labelling and packaging do not provide enough information on how to use portable batteries.

### 3. Information for consumers is not sufficient

Stakeholders state among others that:

- Not enough information is available for end-users on the lifetime of rechargeable batteries;
- Not enough information is available for end-users on how to use rechargeable batteries so as to extend their lifetime
  - (advice on charging, software optimisation for load period and limits);
- End-users do not have enough information to distinguish between batteries in relation to better performance:
  - capacity labelling for primary batteries is not harmonised and not an effective indicator for the performance of such batteries;
  - consumers do not always know how to understand provided information (capacity labelling);

## 4. Initial conclusions

- Information is not sufficiently available for end-users;
- Information on environmental performance of batteries is lacking;
- Campaigns need to be performed periodically to support higher participation in waste battery collection;
- Additional information, e.g. through web-platforms, is missing in relation to:
  - labelling;
  - how and where to dispose of batteries;
  - information on proper charging and use, etc.
- In relation to chemical content, there is a need for further information, at least where there are risks related to use.

## 5. Discussion



## Points for Discussion

### Points for discussion

How appropriate is the current formulation of Art. 20?

Should end-users find more information on:

- Safe and efficient use of batteries and how they actively participate in collection?
- Environmental performance of batteries as a whole?

Should there be more information available to consumers (lacking detail, low frequency of campaigns)?



Thank you for your attention!

Any further questions?



## Your contact

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