

# Waste Battery Presentation Guide

KMK aim to ensure that customers are aware of the importance of safe handling, storage and presentation of waste batteries for collection. We request that you carefully read the **WEEE Ireland Battery Safety Leaflet** provided to you. This leaflet can be freely downloaded from the WEEE Ireland website.

## Safe Handling of Batteries

When handling waste batteries, use **personal protective equipment (PPE)** such as gloves to protect your hands. Batteries may leak acid or electrolyte that is corrosive. Practice proper **manual handling technique** when carrying larger batteries which may be heavy or awkward to lift. Specifically avoid short-circuiting batteries by connecting battery terminals. Never pierce, crush, throw or drop batteries from heights due to the associated fire risk.



## Safe Storage of Batteries

Any type / chemistry of battery, if still holding a charge, can short circuit and result in a fire. Batteries should be stored in a **cool, dry weatherproof and supervised** location away from direct sunlight, heat or any other combustible material. Batteries should always be stored out of reach of children or animals. Large quantities of batteries should not be stored for extended periods of time.



Batteries should only be stored in **approved boxes and containers** supplied by KMK. Where you have **lithium-type** batteries stored together, KMK advise that the **terminals** of these **batteries be taped** to avoid short circuit and/or fire. Batteries should not be wrapped in conductive materials like aluminium foil or stored in metallic containers. Never mix other wastes with waste batteries.



*Taped terminals*



# Presenting Batteries for Collection

## Waste Household Batteries:

Household batteries should be stored in either **60L UN-approved drums** or **WEEE Ireland boxes** provided by KMK. If batteries are stored in the 5kg WEEE Ireland boxes, then please ensure these boxes are safely stored as detailed above. Please never overfill battery boxes or 60L UN-approved drums and close all lids.



60L UN-approved drum



WEEE Ireland box

## Waste Lead Acid/Fence Batteries:

KMK provides large **pallet boxes** for the collection of lead acid batteries. Lead acid batteries have to be separately stored in leak proof containers as the lead acid within them can leak out into the environment.

For transportation purposes, fence batteries also require separate storage to that of mixed household batteries. Fence Batteries are to be neatly **shrink wrapped/secured** on a **wooden pallet**.

It is requested that all lead acid and fence batteries are stacked upright with battery **terminals facing upwards** to prevent risk of short-circuit. Where possible **terminals should be taped**. Please do not attempt to lift pallet boxes or wooden pallets without assistance and always consult your workplace Health & Safety Officer and procedures. Please never overfill pallet boxes and close all lids.



Pallet boxes containing Lead Acid batteries



Fence Batteries shrink-wrapped on wooden pallets

## Emergencies:

Emergencies relating to waste batteries are extremely rare and are mostly associated with **lithium-type** batteries. Damaged batteries are identifiable where they expand in volume, produce a hissing sound, visibly smoke or get excessively hot. In the unlikely event that you become concerned about the condition of a waste battery you should: 1. Call Emergency Services immediately and seek advice. 2. Notify your designated workplace Health and Safety Officer immediately. 3. Contact WEEE Ireland or KMK with feedback following the event.

KMK Metals Recycling Ltd. provide for the collection, recycling and recovery of WEEE and waste batteries on behalf of WEEE Ireland.

If you require any further information about our services or require receptacles, please feel free to contact us:

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