

**Decision no. 105/1995 of the state council about batteries and battery packs containing dangerous substances**

In Helsinki, January 26. 1955;  
revised on January 14. 1999 (17/99).

Based on the garbage disposal law given on December 3. 1993 (1072/1993), article 5 and the law of chemical substances given on October 14. 1989 (744/1989), article 43 paragraph 1 and article 44 as they are included in the law given on December 18.1992 (1412/1992), the state council has decided the following after studying the proposals of the environment ministry:

**1 Specifications**

In this decision a battery means a source of energy, in which chemical energy is transformed directly into electrical energy and which consists of one or several primary batteries (not rechargable) and a battery pack means a source of energy, which consists of one or several secondary cells (rechargable).

**2 Application**

This decision is applied to batteries and battery packs, which contain more than:

1. 25 g mercury per a cell without including alkaline manganese batteries;
2. 0.025 percent of weight of cadmium, or
3. 0.4 percent of weight of lead

The decision is applied also to alkaline manganese batteries, which contain mercury more than 0.025 percent of weight.

In addition, the decision is applied to batteries and battery packs, which contain mercury more than 0.0005 percent of weight and which enter the market after the April 1. 1999. (17/99)

**3 Releasing certain batteries and battery packs to the market (17/99)**

Batteries and battery packs containing mercury more than 0.0005 percent of weight, excluding button cells and batteries consisting of button cells, which contain mercury max. 2 percent of weight, cannot be released to the market. This concerns also batteries and battery packs, which are inbuilt in any equipment.

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### **4 Marking batteries and battery packs**

Batteries and battery packs may be released to the market only when they have been marked according to the appendix 1 of this decision.

### **5 Combining batteries and battery packs into equipments**

Equipments having batteries and battery packs inbuilt can be imported and made only on the condition that the user can easily remove the used batteries or battery packs from the equipment. The limitation mentioned in the paragraph 1 does not concern the equipments ment in the appendix 2 of this decision.

### **6 The duty of informing**

When equipments with inbuilt batteries or battery packs are sold, clear information must be given about the dangers of incorrect handling of used batteries and battery packs and about markings of the batteries and battery packs and their meaning. The equipments mentioned in the above article 5, paragraph 2 must be equipped with instructions informing the user about inbuilt batteries or battery packs, which are dangerous for the environment and about their safe removal from the equipment.

### **7 Control**

The observance of this law is controlled by the control personnel of the carbage disposal law (1072/1993) and law about chemical substances (744/1989).

### **8 Validity**

This decision is valid from March 1. 1995. Batteries and battery packs made in EU or brought into EU before this date may be released to the market without the marking mentioned in article 4 until 31. December 1995.

Helsinki January 26, 1995

*Minister of environment Sirpa Pietikäinen*

*Chief inspector Klaus Pfister*

Council directive 91/157/EEC; EYVL No. L78,  
26.3.1991, p. 38 and Comission directive 93/86/EEC;  
EYVL No. 264, 23. 10.1993, p. 51

Validity of the revised decision 17/1999:

This decision will be valid on April 1, 1999.

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### **PROBLEM CARBAGE**

Anyhow, the prohibition mentioned in article 3 will be valid on January 1. 2000 when the question is about such button cells or batteries consisting of button cells containing mercury more than 2 percent of weight.

Helsinki, January 14. 1999

*Minister Sinikka Mönkäre*

*Consulting civil servant Klaus Pfister*

Comission directive 98/101/EC, EYVL No. L 1,5.1.1999, p. 1

### **Appendix 1**

Marking about separate disposal metioned in article 4

1. A trash bin with casters and a cross over it is the mark informing about separate disposal. This mark must look like one of the drawings shown later: (please note that the drawing is missing from this Internet text)
2. In addition to the marking mentiodn in paragraph 1, the marking must also contain a chemical symbol of the heavy metal contained in the battery or battery pack, Hg, Cd or Pb.
3. The mark mentioned in paragraph 1 must cover 3 % of the largest side of the battery or battery pack and the maximum size is 5 cm x 5 cm. In case of cylinder shaped batteries or battery packs, the mark must cover 3 % of half of the battery or battery pack area and its maximum size can be 5 cm x 5 cm.
4. If the size of the battery or battery pack is such that the mark made according to the paragraph 3 would be less than 0.5 cm x 0.5 cm, the battery or battery pack does not need any marking. In this case the package must have a mark of 1 cm x 1 cm.
5. The mark mentioned in paragraph 2 must be printed under the mark mentioned in paragraph 1. The size of this mark must be at least one fourth of the area of the mark mentioned in paragraph 1.
6. The marks must be printed so that they can be seen clearly ad so that they do not fade away.

### **Appenix 2**

Equipments into which batteries and battery packs can be combined according to article 5 paragraph 2.

1. Equipments, in which the batteries or battery packs are soldered, welded or in some other way fixed permanently in order to ensure continuous power supply to demanding industrial usage and to backup the memory of information or office technology when the usage of batteries or battery packs

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ment in this decision is technically necessary.

2. The comparison cells and batteries and battery packs in equipments ment for scientific or professional use or installed in medical equipments ment for sustenance of essential life factors and in pace makers, uninterrupted operation of which is important. In these cases the batteries and battery packs can be removed only by professional personnel.
3. Portable equipments, when batteries or battery packs removed by any unprofessional person may cause danger to the user or may affect the operation of the equipment or equipments ment for professional use and used in sensitive places such as in places where there are volatile substances present.

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