

USED LEAD ACID BATTERIES

ULABs and the Basel Convention Fact Sheet for Waste Handlers

The **Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal** aims to protect human health and the environment against hazardous wastes.



The Basel Convention

ULABs, due to their high toxicity, are listed as hazardous waste under the Basel Convention.

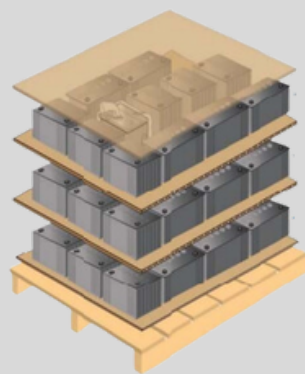
Collection and Storage of Used Lead Acid Batteries (ULABs) at Collection Points, according to the Basel Convention

- Batteries should be stored whole and should not be drained, dismantled or broken to remove lead plates or electrolyte.
- The storage area should be located away from heat sources, sheltered, well-ventilated and have an impermeable surface.
- ULABs should be stored inside acid-resistant containers or placed on pallets.
- They should only be stored at collection points solely for the purpose of accumulating sufficient amounts for cost effective transportation to a recycling facility.



82
Pb
Lead
207.2

Packaging



- ULABs should be inspected for damage, while wearing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), prior to packaging.
- Batteries should be kept upright at all times, and batteries with terminals on the side must be stacked so that the posts are facing away from each other.
- They should be stacked no more than 4 layers high, and secured to the pallet with clear stretch wrap. The pallet should be wrapped as many times as necessary to stabilize the load, and strapped under tension with plastic tape on all 4 sides.
- Damaged batteries with the potential for leakage should be put into heavyweight polyethylene bags.



DID YOU KNOW?

Dry cell vehicle batteries and lead-acid Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) batteries (value regulated and open vented) are also considered ULABs and should be handled accordingly.

