

Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354)
Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste)(General) Regulation

A Guide on Proper Disposal of Waste Lead-acid Batteries

What are WLABs?

Waste lead-acid batteries (WLABs) are lead-acid batteries that are discarded and need to be disposed of. Lead-acid batteries are commonly used in motor vehicles. They are also used in certain mobile machineries, generators, uninterruptible power supply (UPS) of computer servers and systems as well as emergency lighting and burglar/fire alarm systems in buildings (collectively known hereinafter as “LAB-powered equipment”). Photos of typical LABs are shown in **Annex A**.

Why should I bother about WLABs?

WLABs contain hazardous substances such as lead and sulphuric acid. If not properly disposed of, they may pose a threat to human health and the environment. WLABs are classified as chemical waste and controlled under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap.354) (WDO) and its subsidiary Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation (CWR).

My company, organization or shop has vehicles, UPS or other equipment that may produce WLABs. What should I do? Should my company, organization or shop register as a chemical waste producer?

To many users, the motor vehicles or other LAB-powered equipment are maintained by a service provider. In this case, you should ensure the hired service provider, or its subcontractor who actually carries out the maintenance work, has registered with the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) as a chemical waste producer under the WDO. When any WLABs require disposal, you should not remove them from the vehicles or LAB-powered equipment concerned by yourself. A registered chemical waste producer will handle and arrange to dispose of the WLABs in a proper manner.

However, if you are involved in removing the WLABs for disposal, you need to register with the EPD under the WDO as a registered chemical waste producer. This is irrespective of whether you maintain vehicles or LAB-powered equipment owned by you or provide maintenance service to another party. Being a producer of WLABs, you need to ensure that the WLABs are properly handled in your premises as well as collected by a licensed chemical waste collector for proper transportation and disposal.

In a less common situation, if you are in possession of a few pieces of WLABs already removed from motor vehicles or other equipment, you should, as quickly as possible, register with the EPD as a registered chemical waste producer under the WDO, properly package, label and store the WLABs, and hire a licensed chemical waste collector under the WDO to collect the WLABs for proper transportation and disposal. Before this can be arranged, you should pack and seal them in heavy duty plastic bags for proper storage inside a suitable cabinet or container.

Where can I find licensed chemical waste collectors and how can I know whether my maintenance service provider is a registered chemical waste producer?

A list of licensed chemical waste collectors is available from the following webpages of EPD -

http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/epic/english/chemical_waste.html

If you want to check whether your maintenance service provider is a registered chemical waste producer, you may contact the help desk of EPD at 2835 2546 on working days from 9:00am to 5:00pm or email enquiry@epd.gov.hk.

If the vehicles and equipment concerned are maintained by a service provider, you need to ensure that the hired service provider, or its subcontractor who actually carries out the maintenance work, is a registered chemical waste producer. You can request the hired service provider, or its subcontractor to provide you with a copy of the relevant trip ticket for reference, so as to ensure that the WLABs have been properly disposed of.

My current service provider is not a registered chemical waste producer. Can I continue to use that service provider?

You should change to a service provider with the status of a registered chemical waste producer, or to a provider who could ensure its sub-contractor that is directly involved in removing the WLABs for disposal is a registered producer. If you do not want to change, you must immediately request your current service provider or its sub-contractor to register with the EPD as a chemical waste producer and ensure that the WLABs so produced will be handled and disposed of in a proper manner. Otherwise, you and your service provider may have committed an offence under the WDO.

What are the steps to register as a chemical waste producer?

You need to register with the EPD. A sample registration form is at **Annex B**. More information on application for registration is available at the following EPD webpage. For further assistance, please contact the help desk of EPD at 2835 2546

on working days from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/application_for_licences/applic_froms/files/epd129.pdf

Apart from hiring a licensed chemical waste collector to collect and transport WLABs, are there other obligations for a registered chemical waste producer?

A chemical waste producer should arrange proper packaging, labelling and storage of chemical waste before transportation to disposal facilities as provided in the “Code of Practice on the Packaging, Labelling and Storage of Chemical Wastes” (CoP). The CoP is available at EPD’s webpage http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide_ref/guide_cwc_sub3.html. The producer should also keep records of the quantities of WLAB produced as well as the trip tickets pertaining to the consignments of WLABs for at least 12 months. EPD may inspect these records as and when needed.

What are the steps to become a licensed chemical waste collector?

To ensure that a licensed chemical waste collector is capable of handling, collecting and transporting WLABs in a proper manner, there are requirements in set up, qualification and training to be met, as well as strict operational and record keeping requirements to be observed. For details please contact the help desk of EPD at 2835 2546 on working days from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Where can I find more information about the chemical waste control programme?

More information on the chemical waste control programme is available at the following EPD webpage. You can also contact the help desk of EPD at 2835 2546 on working days from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

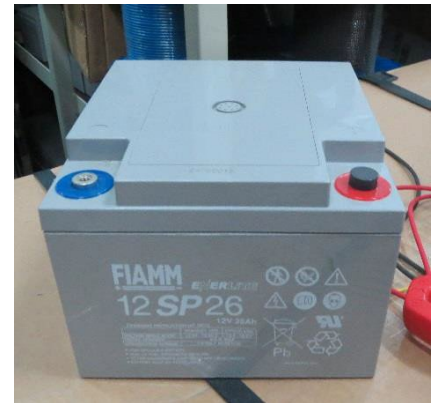
http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide_ref/guide_cwc.html



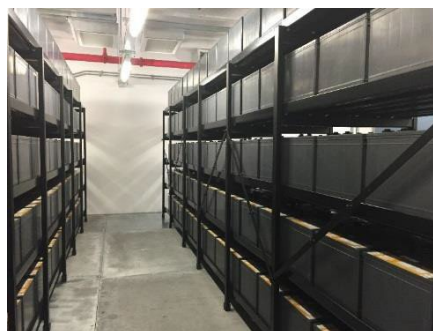
Environmental Protection Department
March 2023

Typical Lead-acid Batteries (LABs)

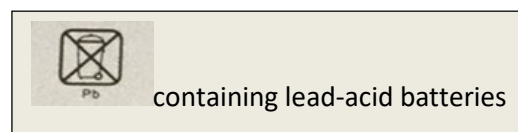
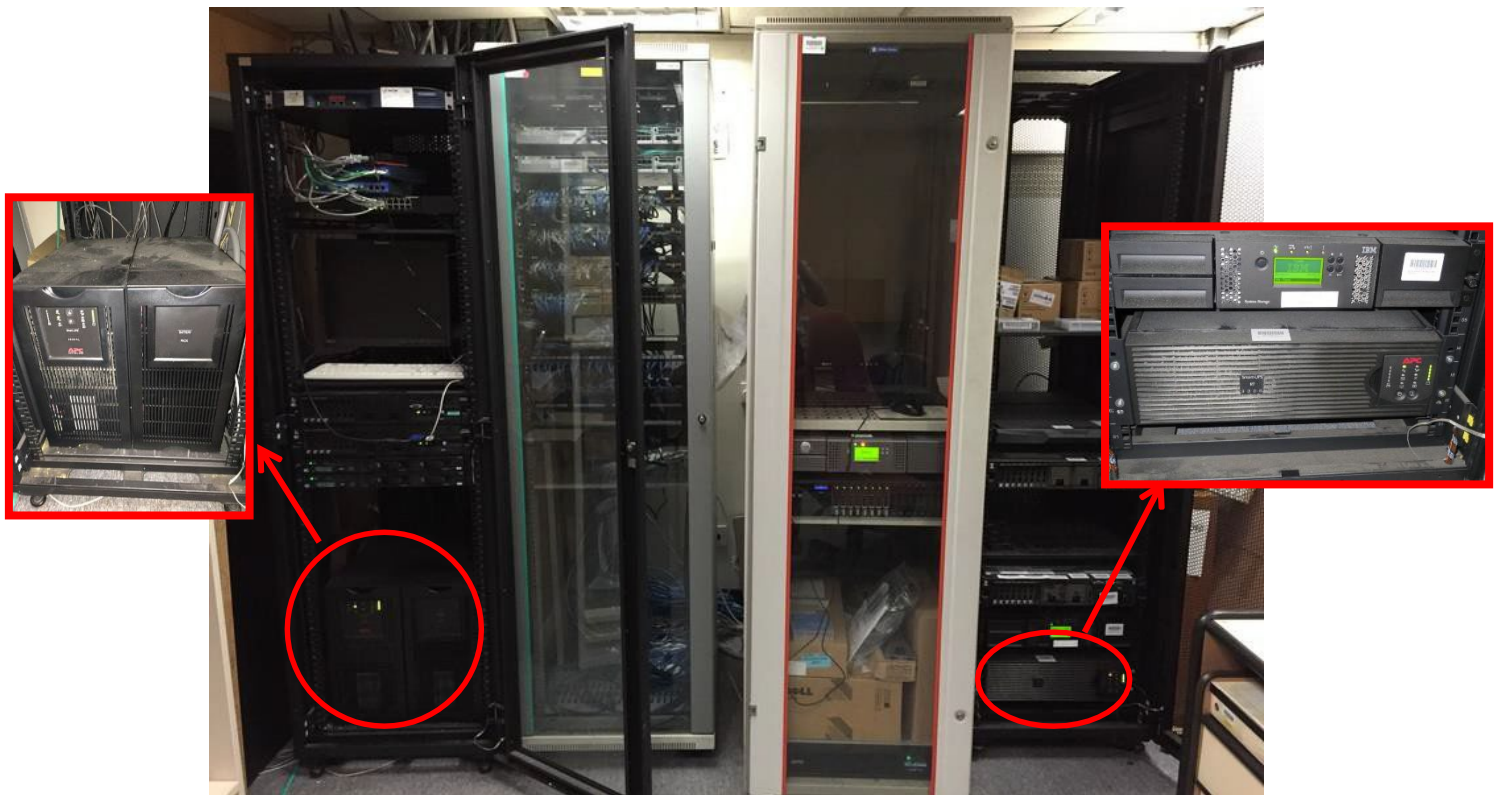
Typical Lead-acid Batteries



Common UPS used in Data Centre



Computer servers in offices



Emergency lighting, generator and burglar/fire alarm systems in buildings



Emergency generators in buildings



Sample of a Chemical Waste Producer Registration Form (EPD 129)

Environmental Protection Department 環 境 保 護 署 Waste Disposal Ordinance (Chapter 354) 香港法例第 354 章廢物處置條例 Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste)(General)Regulation 廢物處置 (化學廢物) (一般)規例 Application for Registration as a Chemical Waste Producer 化學廢物產生者登記申請表		
A. Chemical Waste Producer 化學廢物產生者	Name of Applicant (English) (Chinese) (申請人或機構名稱): (英 文) _____ (中 文) _____ Business Reg. Cert. No. (if any) (商業登記證編號): (如有者) _____ I.D. Card No. (where appropriate) (身分證編號): (如適用者) _____ Address for Correspondence (通訊地址): _____ _____ Tel. No. Fax No. (電話): (圖文傳真): _____ E-mail Address (電郵地址): _____	
B. Location or Premises where the waste is produced 產生廢物的地點或樓宇	Name of Establishment (機構名稱): _____ Business Reg. Cert. No. (if any) (商業登記證編號): (如有者) _____ Nature of Business (業務性質): _____ Major chemical waste types (主要化學廢物種類): _____ _____ Address (地址): _____ _____ Tel. No. Fax No. (電話): (圖文傳真): _____ Contact Person (Full Name) (Capacity) (聯絡人): (全名): _____ (職位): _____	
C. Declaration 聲 明	I hereby certify that the particulars given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief. 據本人所知及所信，上文所開列的資料，全屬真確無訛，此證。 _____ <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>Signature (簽名)</div> <div>Company chop where appropriate (公司印鑑如適用者)</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>Name in block letters (正楷姓名)</div> <div>Capacity (職位)</div> <div>Date (日期)</div> </div>	

WARNING: Any person who knowingly or recklessly provides incorrect or misleading information or omits material particulars or information or knowingly or recklessly certifies as correct anything which is incorrect, in relation to any requirement in the Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation, commits an offence punishable with a maximum fine of \$300,000 and imprisonment for 6 months.

警 告: 根據廢物處置(化學廢物)(一般)規例的規定，任何人士故意或罔顧後果地提供不確或誤導資料或遺漏重要事項，又或故意或罔顧後果地證明任何不確事項為正確，即屬違法，最高可被判罰款港幣 200,000 元及入獄 6 個月。