

## **Delay in the Capacity Labelling Implementation Under the Batteries Directive 2006/66/EC**

### **Statement of the European Battery Industry**

The European Commission is currently preparing a proposal for Capacity Labelling of portable and automotive batteries in accordance with the provisions of Batteries Directive 2006/66/EC – Article 21 § 2.

EUROBAT, EPBA and RECHARGE representatives of the European Battery Industry are regularly consulted through stakeholder consultations on the progress made by DG Environment on the capacity marking issue.

In May 2009 The European Commission proposed to the EU Member States the following way forward on the capacity labelling of portable and automotive batteries:

- 1 ) finalize the adoption of the draft decision for portable secondary (rechargeable) batteries and automotive batteries, and
- 2 ) make further assessments on portable primary batteries and the costs and benefits of the monitoring and the enforcement of the new requirements.

Following acceptance by Member States of this dual approach, and after receiving the final remarks from the Member States, the European Commission will issue draft regulations establishing, pursuant to Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, rules as regards capacity labelling of portable secondary (rechargeable) and automotive batteries and accumulators. We understand that the European Commission aims to finalise with the Member States the regulations before the end of 2009.

The regulations will then require approval by the European Parliament (anticipated first quarter 2010). Following publication in the Official Journal, battery producers will have 18 months to implement the requirements according to the regulations.

As for portable primary batteries we understand that DG Environment will ask consultants Bio Intelligence to make a further assessment starting before the end of 2009 and taking 4 months for completion.

We will update this statement as the timelines becomes clearer in the future. In the mean time should you require any further information please contact the following Associations.

Brussels, December 7th, 2009.

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