

Communication on safe use of batteries

Introduction

Portable batteries are a source of portable electrical power that can be used in a wide variety of appliances ranging from remote controls for toys to high-end portable devices. Due to constant product development and innovation, more and more appliances are placed on the market which require a battery to operate.

Portable batteries come in a wide variety of shapes, sizes and chemistries. For the functionality of the appliance and the safety of the consumer, it is therefore important that the right choices are made when selecting a battery while taking into account some basic principles to ensure safe use of the battery and appliance.

General safety principles

- As a starting point, the instructions of the appliance as well as the information on the battery packaging should be read carefully and understood by the consumer. This will contain information on the recommended battery-type that can be used in your appliance;
- Misuse of batteries (e.g. throwing in fire, overcharge, wrong polarity use,...) as well as manipulating batteries is very dangerous and could lead to serious injury as well as damaging your appliance;
- Instructions for charging rechargeable batteries:
 - o Respect the polarities of the batteries
 - o Only use the type of batteries which are compatible with the charger
 - o Ideal charging condition is at room temperature
 - o Do not recharge non-rechargeable (primary) batteries

Advice for purchasing batteries

Before buying batteries online or in physical stores, please check all applicable safety and use instructions provided by the manufacturer with the product or online. Please show additional caution if batteries are:

- Sold without the original and correct manufacturer's logo or brand
- Sold at extremely low price that could indicate a risk of counterfeit products
- Sold without packaging and/or user instructions
- Marketed as "OEM" since this may mean that the manufacturer is not a reputable battery manufacturer

Safe use of lithium-ion batteries

Manufacturers have become aware that some people may use cylindrical lithium-ion battery cells in a way that does not correspond with how these should be used, i.e. in products such as eCigarettes and vape pens. Because of their high power, some Li-ion Cells require safety precautions and mechanisms to make their use safe.

Misuse of Li-ion Cells in eCigarettes and vape pens may cause a serious risk to personal property and safety.