



Highlights from the 2018 annual report

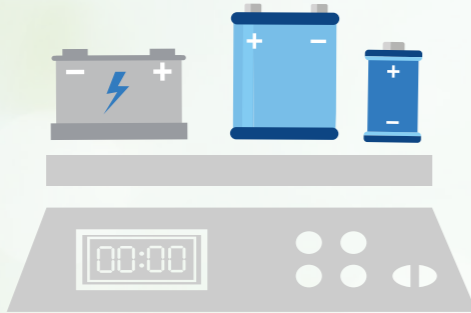
Stibat unburdens Stichting Batterijen: statutory tasks in good hands

9,58 MILLION KG

In 2018, the affiliated producers of portable batteries placed 9,58 million kilogrammes of portable batteries on the market (numbers updated up to 1 May 2019). This number was 8,89 million kilogrammes in 2017 and 8,78 million kilogrammes in 2016.

Batteries placed on the market

Producers place batteries on the market and ensure – through Stibat – that these batteries are eventually collected and recycled. In return, they pay a recycling fee for each battery. There was an increase in the number of batteries placed on the market in 2018 compared to 2017. This increase was due to the improving economy, the increase in the number of battery-related applications and the increased use of batteries.



Collective solution for producers of portable and industrial batteries

Stichting Batterijen offers a collective solution for producers and importers of portable and industrial batteries. On behalf of Stichting Batterijen, Stibat handles the fulfilment of the statutory producer responsibility. At the end of 2018, 1,015 producers (manufacturers and importers) of batteries and accumulators were part of Stichting Batterijen through a membership agreement.

myBatbase

In 2018, members awarded the myBatbase battery declaration system a rating of 7,7. The Stibat service was awarded a rating of 8.

Statutory tasks

The statutory producer responsibility encompasses the following tasks: achieving the statutory collection percentage, providing a national network of collection points, realising the statutory recycling efficiency and informing consumers about the importance of separate collection. Stibat also handles the statutory registration on behalf of producers and provides reports to the government regarding the weight of the batteries and accumulators these producers place on the Dutch market each year.



Collection network

Stores and companies that sell portable batteries and accumulators are required by law to collect these as well. 'You can return them where you buy them.' Stibat maintains an intricate collection network in which each municipality has at least one collection point per two thousand inhabitants.

In 2018, there were 24,216 Stibat collection points for portable batteries and accumulators. This number was 24,528 in 2017 and 23,795 in 2016.

Generally binding regulation (AVV)

Part of the batteries placed on the market is produced by companies that are not connected to Stibat and therefore do not pay a recycling fee. However, consumers do return these batteries to Stibat collection points. In order to make sure everyone contributes to the collection costs, Stibat – on behalf of Stichting Batterijen – started a procedure for a generally binding regulation (AVV) for the collection network in 2018. On 22 October 2018, this regulation was definitively approved by the state secretary for a period of 5 years.

Accountant check

Each year, Ernst & Young use random sampling to check if Stichting Batterijen members have correctly filled out their battery declarations. 13 accountant checks took place in 2018.

Pilot decentralised collection and storage

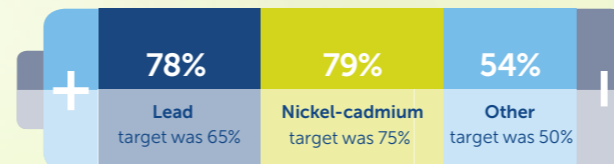
In 2018, Stibat ran a pilot with electric collection and decentralised storage in four regions. This approach reduced the length of routes. The pilot was a success; the electric collection of batteries resulted in a CO2 reduction of 60 tonnes.



Recycling result

Recovering the maximum possible amount of materials from collected batteries: that is the ultimate goal of our collection activities. In 2018, like in previous years, we worked with recyclers who exceeded the statutory objective for recycling percentages.

Recycling statistics of portable and industrial batteries

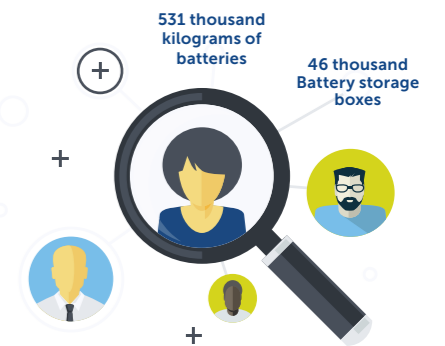


Over 6 million people were reached through radio spots.

Communication: campaigns and events

Communication with end users is a statutory obligation and makes up an important part of the collection process. Important activities in 2018 included:

- The campaign 'Empty batteries? Hand them in and WIN!' gives consumers a chance to win great prizes each month. We followed this up with the campaign 'What do you do with your empty battery?' to encourage people to engage in separate collection. In 2018, over 531 thousand kilogrammes were handed in (in bags of at least 10 batteries). In 2017, this number was 485 thousand kilogrammes.
- Promotions during the Huishoudbeurs and in malls. During the Huishoudbeurs, a total of 2,668 kilogrammes of batteries were collected. One visitor set a record by handing in 14,480 batteries!
- The Battery Box allows consumers to safely store their empty batteries in a single location. The storage boxes come with an informative flyer. In 2018, about 46,000 Battery Boxes were distributed through the Huishoudbeurs, mall promotions, the webshop and online campaigns.
- Stibat developed a special collection project for primary schools, which allows schools to use collected batteries to save up for school supplies. The participating primary schools, totalling about 5,000, collected approximately 94 thousand kilogrammes of batteries in 2018.



Communication: internet and radio

Stibat also uses the internet and radio to encourage consumers to hand in empty batteries:

- Stibat has two websites. Stibat.nl, for (future) members of Stichting Batterijen, features information on the regulations, approach, collection instructions and the latest news. Consumers and primary schools can find information about collection points and the collection and education programme on Legebatterijen.nl.
- Communication via social media. In addition to Facebook and Twitter, we also became active on Instagram in 2018. Result in 2018: 11.7 million impressions, 2.9 million consumers reached and a fanbase of 50 thousand people.
- Radio spots on eight channels reached 6.08 million people. The spots led to an increase in the awareness of the supermarket as a collection point from 80% in 2017 to 87% in 2018.



Ecotest

Stibat uses Ecotest to gain a detailed understanding of the performance of the entire recycling chain. This test shows that, thanks to Stibat's efforts in 2018, the emission of 3.3 million kilogrammes of CO2 emissions was avoided, as well as the emission of 24 million kilogrammes of hazardous substances. Additionally, about 10 thousand kilogrammes of eutrophication substances -- substances that affect groundwater, such as phosphate -- were kept from ending up in the environment.

Realized collection percentage 2018



Collection result

Stibat collected over 4.31 million kilogrammes of batteries in 2018, which is an increase of 0.31 million kilogrammes compared to 2017. This was mostly due to a successful national radio campaign, which resulted in increased awareness and led to an increase in the intricate collection through collection points of over 9 percent.