

Rathbone Comments and Advisory on Leaky Battery Cells

The most important specification / information sheet about batteries of any type from any manufacturer is your Material safety Data Sheet, (MSDS). Every battery user should read and understand their MSDS sheet not just for heavy metals but for the chemicals used by any manufacturer in the manufacture of any battery cell. These metals and chemicals are required if you want a battery.

Every battery cell has the potential to leak. Every battery cell manufacturer from the very best manufacturer and technology and quality control to the lower grade Chinese or South African battery cell manufacturer can have battery cells that leak. It is something that is not totally under the control of the battery cell manufacturer and is a part of the battery cell manufacturer and user world.

However, the quantity or volume of leaky battery cells varies from one battery cell manufacturer to another. The quantity or volume of battery cells with leakage depends on several factors.

- In the first category of battery cell leakage factors are these:
 - The reputation of the battery cell manufacturer
 - The quality of the components and chemicals used by the manufacturer
 - The technology used to manufacturer those components and chemicals into a battery cell
 - The research and development investment to continue and reduce the amount of leakage
 - and the frequency of the incident
 - This research and development should include new and used battery cells
 - In the second category are the more uncontrollable, unforeseen, unpredictable factors
 - The End User
 - Battery cell or battery pack abuse
 - Low to high impact of the battery cell or pack
 - Puncture of the battery cell or battery pack
 - Denting of battery cells or the battery pack
 - High Discharge Rates and length of the high discharge
 - Over Discharge Rates and how low the battery cells were dropped in voltage
 - Age of the battery cells and or pack
 - Charge technique used on the battery cell or pack
 - Exposure to elements
 - Climate control
 - This list can get very long

The results of leaky battery cells is of extreme importance to every organic and non-organic object exposed to a leaky battery cell and the metals or chemicals that are required to manufacture a battery cell.

- Sensitive of the human body / user to the metals or chemicals within the varying battery cell type
 - Metals such as cadmium, chromium, and lead to name a few
 - Chemicals such as those in the Benzene family, Ethylene, Polypropylene, Polyethylene
 - to name only a few
- Protection of the circuit boards, electronics, and other components within the battery pack which could be damaged by the chemicals inside the leaky battery cell
- Damage to any of these components can compromise the safe use of the battery cell or battery pack which can cause damage to the end user or the equipment or both.
- In closing, if you think you or someone else, for whatever reason, has caused a battery cell or battery pack to start leaking, or if the battery cell or cells have started leaking, please properly recycle that battery cell or battery pack immediately and buy new battery cells or battery packs.

A battery cell and battery pack recycler contact can be found on our home page of

www.rathboneenergy.com www.rathboneenergy.biz

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