

LEO SUSTAINABILITY EXPRESS



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**Battery
Regulation
(2023/1542)**

**Leo's 4th
Green Supply
Chain Summit**

**Leo Notebook
- A dedication
to nature**



ABOUT LEO SUSTAINABILITY EXPRESS

THROUGH OUR SUSTAINABILITY EXPRESS, WE AIM TO SHARE OUR SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES WITH OUR CLIENTS AND PARTNERS, AND WORK HAND IN HAND TO CREATE A GREENER, MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE TOGETHER.



Go Green

Leo Sustainability Express Issue 7 brings together timely insights on sustainability and innovation. This issue explores key updates on the Battery Regulation, highlights takeaways from the 4th Green Supply Chain Summit and shares practical perspectives in Leo Notebook.

Battery Regulation (EC 2023/1542)

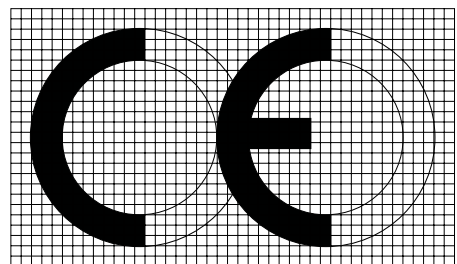
A groundbreaking provision of EC 2023/1542 is the requirement that portable batteries in electronic devices must be removable and replaceable by the end-user.

- Devices such as smartphones and laptops must be designed so that consumers can easily replace batteries without specialized tools.
- This combats the trend of sealed devices, where batteries are glued or soldered in place, making repair and recycling difficult.
- Removability supports repairability, reuse, and recycling, extending product lifespans and reducing electronic waste.
- Effective date is 18 Feb 2027

This measure empowers consumers, reduces costs, and supports the EU's broader sustainability goals.

Labelling, Marking & information (Including CE Mark)

Transparency is central to the regulation. Portable batteries must carry clear labels including general information such as battery category, manufacturing location, date of manufacturing, weight, capacity, chemistry, hazardous substances other than mercury, cadmium or lead and the usable extinguishing agent.



- **CE marking:** Batteries must display the CE mark, confirming compliance with EU safety, health, and environmental protection standards.

- **Capacity and performance data:** Labels must show energy capacity and expected durability.
- **Recycled content:** Information on the percentage of recycled materials used must be provided.
- **Safe disposal instructions:** Clear guidance ensures consumers know how to recycle batteries responsibly.
- **QR code:** A QR code will give access to detailed lifecycle data, including carbon footprint and supply chain information.

These labelling requirements enhance consumer trust and ensure accountability across the supply chain.

Implications for Industry

For manufacturers and distributors, EC 2023/1542 introduces significant obligations:

- **Product redesign:** Devices must be engineered for battery removability.
- **Compliance testing:** Batteries must meet performance, durability, and chemical safety standards.
- **Labelling updates:** CE marking and detailed information must be included on packaging and products.
- **Reporting obligations:** Companies must provide data on recycled content and supply chain due diligence.

While these requirements increase costs, they also drive innovation and position companies as leaders in sustainable technology.

Implications for Consumers

For everyday user, the regulation brings tangible benefits:

- **Longer-lasting devices** thanks to durable batteries.

- **Lower costs** by enabling battery replacement instead of full device replacement.
- **Clearer information** on battery performance and recycling options.
- **Safer products** due to restrictions on hazardous substances.

Consumers gain more control over their devices and contribute to sustainability through responsible recycling.

Environmental and Social Impact

The regulation supports the European Green Deal by reducing waste and promoting resource efficiency.

- Collection targets for portable batteries are set at 63% by 2027 and 73% by 2030.
- Recycling efficiency targets ensure recovery of critical raw materials like lithium, cobalt, and nickel.
- Due diligence obligations address human rights and environmental risks in global supply chain.



Together, these measures reduce environmental pollution, conserve resources, and promote ethical sourcing.

Conclusion

The EU Battery Regulation (EC 2023/1542) transforms the way portable batteries are designed, used, and recycled. By restricting hazardous substances, enforcing performance and durability standards, mandating removability and replaceability, and requiring clear labelling including the CE mark, the regulation sets a global benchmark for sustainable battery governance. For consumers, it means safer, longer lasting, and more transparent products. For industry, it demands innovation and accountability. Ultimately, portable batteries—once a symbol of convenience but also of waste—are being reimagined as part of a sustainable, circular economy.

Leo Paper Group Hosts the 4th Green Supply Chain Summit

Building a Sustainable Ecosystem Together: Green Quality and Technology Driving Supply Chain Competitiveness

On 18 March, we successfully hosted the 4th Green Supply Chain Summit, welcoming over 180 guests and representatives. Under the theme “Driving Environmental Performance, Shaping a Sustainable Supply Chain Ecosystem,” the Summit brought together Leo’s key clients, international certification bodies, and green technology experts.

Through cross-sector dialogue and experience sharing, participants explored how sustainability can be transformed from concept into core supply chain competitiveness, supporting long-term industry development.



In his opening address, Mr. Samuel Leung, Group Chairman, highlighted that amid accelerating global industrial transformation, carbon neutrality, green trade, and ESG have become essential to sustainable corporate growth. Guided by the principle of “Quality-oriented Enterprise, Technology-driven Enterprise,” the Group continues to integrate environmental considerations into product design, manufacturing, and supply chain management, strengthening a resilient and forward-looking green supply chain through technology enablement and collaboration.



Representatives from customers, certification bodies, green technology experts, and

Leo's Procurement and Supply Management Department shared insights on market trends, international standards, technology applications, and operational practices. Discussions focused on advancing decarbonization, energy transition, and environmental performance management through clear strategies and strengthened partnerships, positioning sustainability as a long-term competitive advantage.



Leo also recognized supplier partners with outstanding performance in green supply chain practices, encouraging wider participation in the green transformation.

In closing, Mr. King Lai, Group Chief Financial Officer and Group Director, reaffirmed the integration of “E (Environment)” into the traditional QCD framework, highlighting the incorporation of environmental KPIs into core operations and performance management.

The Summit concluded with a tree-planting activity, symbolizing Leo's ongoing commitment to building a sustainable future together with its supply chain partners.

Leo Notebook

A dedication to nature

Leo's new notebook is more than a stationery product—it is a thoughtful response to the environmental challenges of our time. Designed with the principles of sustainability, circular economy, and responsible innovation at its core, this notebook redefines what eco friendly stationery can achieve. From raw material selection to final production, every stage follows stringent environmental standards to ensure a truly sustainable lifecycle.

At the heart of these 96 pages notebook is its innovative use of materials. The inner pages are made from bagasse paper, created from sugarcane residue that would otherwise be treated as agricultural waste. Compared to production of traditional wood pulp paper, bagasse paper production significantly reduces energy consumption, water usage, and carbon emissions while helping to protect forests.



Bagasse Paper

The cover is crafted from 100% recycled natural kraft paper, supporting resource reuse and reducing deforestation, while preserving a warm, natural texture that reflects eco conscious aesthetics.



70% Recycled
Kraft Paper

Printing is achieved using revolutionary Algae Ink™, a diatomaceous earth-based ink that is carbon negative and free from petroleum carbon black. This cutting edge ink technology not only reduces VOC emissions but actively helps remove CO₂ from the atmosphere, setting a new benchmark for sustainable printing.



Algae Ink™

Additional environmental innovations include water based, plasticizer free coatings with high durability and biodegradability, as well as plant based adhesives that return safely to nature after use.

With every page turned and every word written, Leo's Notebook represents a conscious choice for the planet. It is not merely a notebook, but a pledge toward a more sustainable and responsible future.