

This leaflet was prepared by the Committee of Environmental Affairs of EUROBAT (May 2003), reviewed by EUROBAT TC members (September 2003) and CEM (October – November 2003). Revision: December 2016

### EUROBAT CUSTOMER CARE PROGRAM

# INFORMATION FOR THE SAFE HANDLING OF LEAD-ACID BATTERIES

| 1. Identification of Product and Company |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Product:                                 | Motive Power Lead Acid Battery  |  |
| Trade name:                              | EnerSys, Hawker, Ironclad, NexSys, Fiamm Motive Power, Energia, Oerlikon, Oldham, |  |
| Manufacturer:                            | EH Europe GmbH  |  |
| Address:                                 | Baarerstrasse 18, 6300 Zug, Switzerland   |  |
| Phone:                                   | Emergency tel. no. +1 703 527 3887  |  |
|  |   |  |

### 2. Hazards Identification

No hazards occur during the normal operation of a Lead Acid Battery as it is described in the INFORMATION FOR USE that is provided with the Battery. However, Lead-Acid Batteries have three significant characteristics:

- They contain an electrolyte which contains diluted sulphuric acid. Sulphuric acid may cause severe chemical burns.
- During the charging process or during operation they might develop hydrogen gas and oxygen, which under certain circumstances may result in an explosive mixture.
- They can contain a considerable amount of energy, which may be a source of high electrical current and a severe electrical shock in the event of a short circuit.

The Batteries have to be marked with the symbols listed under section 15.

### 3. Composition and Information on the main Ingredients

| CAS no.   | Index<br>Numbers | Description  | Content <sup>1)</sup><br>[% of weight] | Hazards Category and Statement<br>Code, GHS pictograms   |
|-----------|------------------|--|--|--|
| 7439-92-1 | 082-014-00-<br>7 | Lead Grid<br>(Lead massive, lead alloys)   | ~ 32                                   | Repr. 1A - H360FD<br>Lact- H362<br>STOT RE 1 - H372  |
| 7439-92-1 | 082-001-00-<br>6 | Active Mass<br>(Lead dioxide, inorganic lead<br>compounds, with possible traces<br>of additives) | ~ 32                                   | Repr. 1A - H360Df<br>Acute Tox. 4 - H332. Acute Tox. 4 - H302<br>STOT RE 1 - H372<br>Lact – H362<br>Carc. 2 – H351<br>Aquatic Acute 1 - H400, Aquatic Chronic 1 H410 |
| 7664-93-9 | 016-020-00-<br>8 | Electrolyte <sup>2)</sup><br>(diluted sulphuric acid with<br>additives)                          | ~ 29                                   | SkinCorr.1A - H 314  |
|           |                  | Plastic Container / Plastic Parts <sup>3)</sup>  | ~ 7                                    |  |

<sup>1)</sup> Contents may vary due to performance data and/or application of the Battery

<sup>2)</sup> Density of the electrolyte varies in accordance to the state of charge

<sup>3)</sup> Composition of the plastic may vary due to different customer requirements



### 4. First Aid measures

This information is of relevance only if the Battery is broken and this results in a direct contact with the ingredients.

### 4.1 General

| Electrolyte (diluted sulphuric acid): | sulphuric acid acts corrosively and damages skin        |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Lead compounds:                       | lead compounds are classified as toxic for reproduction |

### 4.2 Electrolyte (Sulphuric acid)

|     | After skin contact:            | rinse with water, remove and wash wet clothing  |
|-----|--------------------------------|---|
|     | After inhalation of acid mist: | inhale fresh air, seek advice of a medical doctor   |
|     | After contact with the eyes:   | rinse under running water for several minutes, seek advice of a medical doctor                                      |
|     | After swallowing:              | drink a lot of water immediately, swallow activated carbon, do not induce vomiting, seek advice of a medical doctor |
| 4.3 | Lead compounds                 |   |
|     | After skin contact:            | clean with water and soap   |
|     | After inhalation:              | inhale fresh air, seek advice of a medical doctor   |
|     | After contact with the eyes:   | rinse under running water for several minutes, seek advice of a medical doctor                                      |
|     | After swallowing:              | wash mouth with water, seek advice of a medical doctor  |

#### 5. Fire fighting measures

#### Suitable fire extinguishing agents:

CO<sub>2</sub>, dry powder extinguishing agents or Water

#### Unsuitable fire extinguishing agents:

Water, if the battery voltage is above 120 V

#### Special protective equipment:

Protective goggles, respiratory protective equipment, acid protective equipment, acid-proof clothing in case of larger stationary battery plants or where larger quantities are stored.

### 6. Measures to be taken in case of accidental release

This information is of relevance only if the battery is broken and the ingredients are released.

In the case of spillage, use a bonding agent, such as sand, to absorb spilt acid; use lime / sodium carbonate for neutralisation; dispose of with due regard to the official local regulations; do not allow penetration into the sewage system, into earth or water bodies.

### 7. Handling and Storage

Store under a roof in cool ambiance - charged lead-acid batteries do not freeze up to -50°C; prevent short circuits. Seek agreement with local water authorities in case of larger quantities of batteries to be stored. If batteries have to be stored, it is imperative that the instructions for use are observed.



## 8. Exposure limits and personal protective equipment

### 8.1 Lead and Lead compounds

No exposure to lead and lead compounds during normal conditions of use.

### 8.2 Electrolyte (Sulphuric Acid)

Exposure to sulphuric acid and acid mist might occur during filling and charging.

| Threshold value in workplace: | •                               | occupational exposure limits for sulphuric acid mist are regulated on a national basis.              |  |  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Hazard                        | corrosive                       |  |  |  |
| Personal protective equipment | : Protective goge safety boots. | Protective goggles, rubber or PVC gloves, acid-resistant clothing, safety boots.                     |  |  |
| CAS-No:                       | 7664-93-9                       |  |  |  |
| Hazard statements:            | H314                            | Causes severe burns and eye damage.  |  |  |
| Precautionary Statements:     | P102                            | Keep out of reach of children.   |  |  |
|                               | P210                            | Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking        |  |  |
|                               | P305+P351+315                   | IF in eyes. Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Get immediate medical advice/attention. |  |  |
|                               | P309+315                        | IF exposed or if you feel unwell. Get immediate medical advice/attention.                            |  |  |

| 9. Physical and Chemical properties |                         |                                       |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
|                                     | Lead and Lead compounds | Electrolyte                           |  |
|                                     |                         | (diluted sulphuric acid, 30 to 38.5%) |  |
| Appearance                          |                         |                                       |  |
| form :                              | solid                   | liquid                                |  |
| colour :                            | grey                    | colourless                            |  |
| odour :                             | odourless               | odourless                             |  |
| Safety-related data                 |                         |                                       |  |
| solidification point :              | 327°C                   | -35 to -60°C                          |  |
| boiling point :                     | 1740°C                  | approx. 108 to 114°C                  |  |
| solubility in water :               | very low (0.15 mg/l)    | complete                              |  |
| density (20°C) :                    | 11.35g/cm <sup>3</sup>  | 1.2 to 1.3g/cm <sup>3</sup>           |  |
| vapour pressure (20°C) :            | N.A.                    | N.A.                                  |  |

Lead and Lead compounds used in Lead-Acid batteries are poorly soluble in water, Lead can be dissolved in an acidic or alkaline environment only.

### 10. Stability and Reactivity (sulphuric acid, 30 – 38.5 %)

- Corrosive, non-flammable liquid
- Thermal decomposition at 338° C.
- Destroys organic materials such as cardboard, wood, textiles.
- Reacts with metals, producing hydrogen
- Vigorous reactions on contact with sodium hydroxide and alkalis.



#### 11. Toxicological Information

This information does not apply to the finished product "Lead-Acid Battery". This information only applies to its compounds in case of a broken product. Different exposure limits exist on a national level.

### 11.1 Electrolyte (diluted sulphuric acid):

Sulphuric Acid is intensely corrosive to skin and mucous membranes; the inhalation of mists may cause damage to the respiratory tract.

Acute toxicity data:

- LD<sub>50 (oral, rat)</sub> = 2140 mg/kg
- $LC_{50 \text{ (inhalation, rat)}} = 510 \text{ mg/m}^{3}/2h$

### 11.2 Lead and Lead compounds

Lead and its compounds used in a Lead Acid Battery may cause damage to the blood, nerves and kidneys when ingested. The lead contained in the active material is classified as toxic for reproduction.

#### 12. Ecological Information

This information is of relevance if the battery is broken and the ingredients are released to the environment.

### 12.1 Electrolyte (diluted sulphuric acid)

In order to avoid damage to the sewage system, the acid has to be neutralised by means of lime or sodium carbonate before disposal. Ecological damage is possible by change of pH. The electrolyte solution reacts with water and organic substances, causing damage to flora and fauna. The electrolyte may also contain soluble components of lead that can be toxic to aquatic environments

#### 12.2 Lead and Lead compounds

Chemical and physical treatment is required for the elimination from water. Waste water containing lead must not be disposed of in an untreated condition.

Lead metal grids are not classified as eco-toxic.

#### 13. Disposal Considerations

Spent lead-acid batteries (EWC 160601\*) are subject to regulation of the EU Battery Directive and its adoptions into national legislation on the composition and end-of-life management of batteries.

Spent Lead-Acid batteries are recycled in lead refineries (secondary lead smelters). The components of a spent Lead-Acid Battery are recycled or re-processed.

At the points of sale, the manufacturers and importers of batteries, respectively the metal dealers take back spent batteries, and render them to the secondary lead smelters for processing.

To simplify the collection and recycling or re-processing procedure, spent Lead-Acid Batteries must not be mixed with other batteries.

By no means may the electrolyte (diluted sulphuric acid) be emptied in an inexpert manner. This process is to be carried out by the processing companies only.

\*200133 EWC may be used for municipal collected batteries.



# 14. Transport Regulation

### 14.1 Flooded Lead-Acid Batteries:

| Land Transport | Land Transport (ADR/RID)<br>- UN N°: UN2794<br>- Classification ADR/RID: Class 8<br>- Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, FILLED WITH ACID electric storage<br>- Packing Group: not assigned<br>- Packaging instruction: P 801<br>- ADR/RID: New and spent batteries are exempt from all ADR/RID (special provision<br>598). |
|----------------|--|
| Sea Transport  | Sea Transport (IMDG Code)<br>- Classification: Class 8<br>- UN N°: UN2794<br>- Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, FILLED WITH ACID electric storage<br>- Packing Group: Not assigned<br>- EmS: F-A, S-B<br>- Packaging instruction: P 801   |
| Air Transport  | Air Transport (IATA-DGR)<br>- Classification: Class 8<br>- UN N°: UN2794<br>- Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, FILLED WITH ACID electric storage<br>- Packing Group: Not assigned<br>- Packaging instruction: P 870   |

## 14.2 Valve Regulated Lead Acid (VRLA) Batteries:

| Land Transport | Land Transport (ADR/RID, U.S. DOT)<br>- UN N°: UN2800   |
|----------------|---|
| -              | - Classification ADR/RID: Class 8   |
|                | - Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, NON SPILLABLE electric storage  |
|                | - Packing Group: not assigned   |
|                | - Packaging instruction: P 801  |
|                | - ADR/RID: New and spent batteries are exempt from all ADR/RID (special provision 598).   |
| Sea Transport  | Sea Transport (IMDG Code)   |
| Sea Transport  | - UN N°: UN2800   |
|                | - Classification: Class 8   |
|                | - Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, NON SPILLABLE electric storage  |
|                | - Packing Group: Not assigned.  |
|                | - EmS: F-A, S-B   |
|                | - Packaging instruction: P 003  |
|                | <ul> <li>If non-spillable batteries meet the Special Provision 238, they are exempted from all<br/>IMDG codes provided that the batteries' terminals are protected against short circuits.</li> </ul>     |
| Air Transport  | Air Transport (IATA-DGR)  |
|                | - UN N°: UN2800   |
|                | - Classification: Class 8   |
|                | - Proper Shipping Name: BATTERIES, WET, NON SPILLABLE electric storage  |
|                | - Packing Group: Not assigned   |
|                | - Packaging instruction: P 872  |
|                | <ul> <li>If non-spillable batteries meet the Special Provision A67, they are exempted from all IATA<br/>DGR codes provided that the batteries' terminals are protected against short circuits.</li> </ul> |

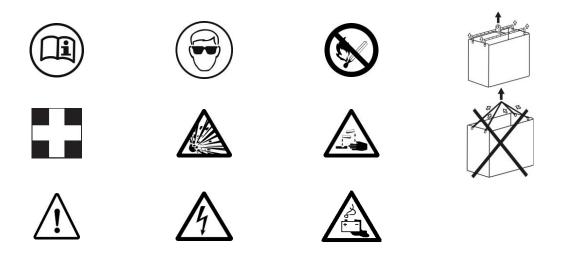


### 15. Regulatory Information

In accordance with EU Battery Directive and the respective national legislation, Lead-Acid batteries have to be marked by a crossed out dust bin with the chemical symbol for lead shown below, together with the ISO return/recycling symbol.



In addition Lead-Acid batteries may have to be labelled with the hazard symbols described below:



Labelling may vary due to application and dimension of the Battery. The manufacturer, respectively the importer of the batteries shall be responsible for placing the symbols (a minimum size is specified). In addition, consumer/user information on the significance of the symbols may be attached.

### 16. Other Information

Products such as Batteries are not in the scope of regulation which require the publication of an EU Safety Data Sheet (Regulation (EC) 1907/2006, Article 31).

The information given above is provided in good faith based on existing knowledge and does not constitute an assurance of safety under all conditions. It is the user's responsibility to observe all laws and regulations applicable for storage, use, maintenance or disposal of the product. If there are any queries, the supplier should be consulted.

However, this shall not constitute a guarantee for any specific product features and shall not establish a legally valid contractual relationship.