

# CIRCULAR ECONOMY OF LEAD BATTERIES

The lead battery industry, with its established circular infrastructure, is a model for other battery chemistries in how to responsibly source, use, reuse and manage materials.

## Step 1: Manufacturing

A new lead battery is typically comprised of **over 80% recycled material**.

Lead from lead batteries can be **infinitely recycled** with no loss of performance.

U.S. lead battery manufacturers source approximately **70% of lead** from domestic recycling facilities.

The world entrusts **70% of its rechargeable energy storage needs** to lead.

## Step 5: Sourcing & Materials Efficiency

Lead batteries have been recycled for **more than 100 years**.

## Step 4: Recycling

Lead batteries have a **99% recycling rate**, the highest of any consumer product in the U.S.

## Step 2: Use

Worldwide, lead batteries are used in virtually **every hybrid and electric vehicle**.

## Step 3: Collection

Modern, closed-loop recycling in the U.S. keeps **more than 130 million lead batteries** from landfills each year.

Research and Innovation  
Sustainable Practices  
Design for Recycling and Efficiency



Lead battery life has **increased by 30-35%** in the last 20 years.

Lead batteries rank among the **top five consumer product categories** in sustainability.

“Lead batteries close the loop more effectively than any other product in the consumer goods space. We’d like to leverage the lessons of this industry to help others reach the same type of performance for their end-of-life products.”

Dr. Carole Mars  
The Sustainability Consortium

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