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IEC SC 21A : SECONDARY CELLS AND BATTERIES CONTAINING ALKALINE OR OTHER NON-ACID ELECTROLYTES	
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OF INTEREST TO THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES: TC 21, TC 120	PROPOSED HORIZONTAL STANDARD: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other TC/SCs are requested to indicate their interest, if any, in this CDV to the secretary.
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TITLE:

**General guidance on reuse and repurposing of secondary cells and batteries**

PROPOSED STABILITY DATE: 2026

## NOTE FROM TC/SC OFFICERS:

During the WG6 October meeting held in San Francisco it was decided to circulate the 63338 CDV according to 21A/804B/CC

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

## GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR REUSE AND REPURPOSING OF SECONDARY CELLS AND BATTERIES

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FDIS	Report on voting
XX/XX/FDIS	XX/XX/RVD

Full information on the voting for the approval of this International Standard can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

112 The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged  
113 until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "http://webstore.iec.ch"  
114 in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- 115 • reconfirmed,
- 116 • withdrawn,
- 117 • replaced by a revised edition, or
- 118 amended.
- 119 •

120

121 The National Committees are requested to note that for this document the stability  
122 date is 20XX..

123 THIS TEXT IS INCLUDED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES AND WILL BE DELETED AT THE  
124 PUBLICATION STAGE.

125

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126

## INTRODUCTION

127 Based on the principles of life cycle thinking (LCT) and environmentally conscious design (ECD),  
128 secondary battery reuse and repurposing are means to reduce raw material consumption.  
129 However, there are potential safety risks to be considered before reusing or repurposing a  
130 battery. These should be thoroughly addressed before considering any kind of reuse or  
131 repurposing operations. Further, all reused or repurposed batteries or sub-units of batteries  
132 shall comply with all safety, transport and product testing at the same level as new battery  
133 products (except tests requiring destructive sampling).

134 The primary purpose of this document is intended to provide: basic guidance on the  
135 environmental aspects of reuse and repurposing of relevant cells and batteries; basic guidance  
136 on safety risks for the reuse and repurposing of relevant cells and batteries; basic guidance on  
137 original manufacturer caution statements on the applicability of a product for reuse or  
138 repurposing; and useful information regarding reuse and repurposing and relevant cell and  
139 battery regulations and standards to interested parties.

140 Additionally, various regions and countries are currently developing requirements and  
141 regulations for the reuse and repurposing of secondary cells and batteries, especially those  
142 used for the propulsion of electric road vehicles, after being extracted at their end of life. These  
143 differing requirements and regulations could lead to technical or safety issues in the use of  
144 these batteries. Thus, nations and regions can be assisted in setting up secondary battery reuse  
145 and repurposing regulations from this aligned international standard.

146 The expected users of this document are: original manufacturers (including cell and battery or  
147 application), qualified reuse and repurposed application manufacturers (e.g. with approval in  
148 writing to reuse or repurpose from the original manufacturer); national, regional, and local  
149 authorities that establish secondary battery reuse and repurposing regulations; and national,  
150 regional, and local authorities that revise secondary battery reuse and repurposing regulations.

151 However, other stakeholders are not precluded from using this document.

152 National and regional standards, regulations and voluntary stewardship programs are given  
153 priority in the matters covered in this document.

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154 **GENERAL GUIDANCE ON REUSE AND REPURPOSING OF SECONDARY**  
155 **CELLS AND BATTERIES**  
156  
157

158 **Scope**

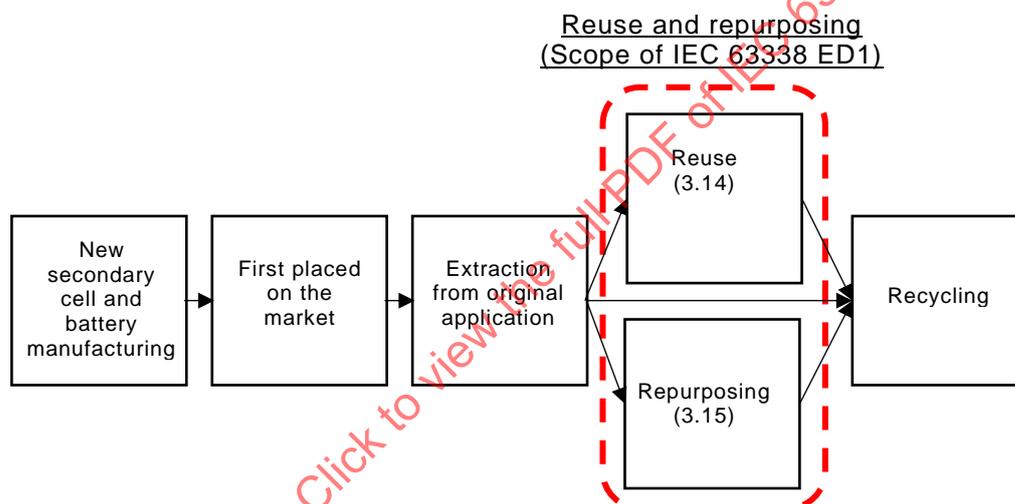
159 This document applies to the reuse and repurposing of secondary lithium ion and nickel metal-  
160 hydride cells and batteries after extraction from the application for which they were first placed  
161 on the market (hereafter “relevant cells and batteries”).

162 NOTE 1: This document does not permit reuse or repurposing of single cells or cell assemblies if battery lifetime  
163 traceability data are not recorded. See clause 4.

164 NOTE 2: Swappable batteries such as those used in e-scooters are removed and installed by the user (such as for  
165 charging) without conducting a safety assessment (such as battery lifetime traceability data assessment) as part of  
166 intended use, which is not considered reuse or repurposing.

167 NOTE 3: This document does not cover system component reuse and repurposing. The original manufacturer can be  
168 contacted to confirm suitability of components for reuse and repurposing

169



170 **Figure 1 – Scope of IEC 63338 ED1**

171 **Normative references**

172 There are no normative references in this document.

173

## 174 Terms and definitions

175 For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

176 ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following  
177 addresses:

- 178 • IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- 179 • ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

### 180 3.1 181 product

182 goods or service

183 [SOURCE: IEC 63218:2021, definition 3.1 modified]

### 184 3.2 185 electric road vehicle

186 electric vehicle with only a traction battery as power source for vehicle propulsion (battery  
187 electric vehicle) or vehicle with both a rechargeable energy storage system and a fuelled power  
188 source for propulsion (hybrid electric vehicle)

189 [SOURCE: IEC 62660-1 2018 ED2, definitions 3.1, 3.2 modified]

### 190 3.3 191 waste battery

192 cells or batteries which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard

193 Note 1 to entry: assessment of used batteries for possibility to repurpose is included in IEC 63330 ED1

194 [SOURCE: IEC 63218:2021, definition 3.2 modified]

### 195 3.4 196 environment

197 surroundings in which an organization operates, including air, water, land, natural resources,  
198 flora, fauna, humans, and their interrelationships

199 Note 1 to entry: Surroundings in this context extend from within an organization to the global system.

200 [SOURCE: IEC 63218:2021, definition 3.3]

### 201 3.5 202 environmental aspect

203 element of an organization's activities or products that interacts or can interact with the  
204 environment

205 Note 1 to entry: An environmental aspect can cause (an) environmental impact(s). A significant environmental aspect  
206 is one that has or can have one or more significant environmental impact(s).

207 Note 2 to entry: Significant environmental aspects are determined by the organization applying one or more criteria.

208 Note 3 to entry: Activities of the organization are those related to the design and development.

209 [SOURCE: IEC60050-901:2013, 901-07-02, modified]

### 210 3.6 211 environmental impact

212 change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partly resulting from a  
213 product environmental aspect

214 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-904:2014, 904-01-03 modified]

215 **3.7**  
216 **environmentally conscious design**  
217 **ECD**  
218 systematic approach which takes into account environmental aspects in the design and  
219 development process with the aim to reduce adverse environmental impacts

220 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-904;2014, 904-01-13]

221 **3.8**  
222 **life-cycle**  
223 consecutive and interlinked stages of a product system, from raw material acquisition or  
224 generation of natural resources to final disposal

225 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-901:2013, 901-07-12]

226 **3.9**  
227 **life-cycle thinking**  
228 **LCT**  
229 consideration of all relevant environmental aspects during the entire life cycle of products

230 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-901;2013, 901-07-14]

231 **3.10**  
232 **life-cycle assessment**  
233 **LCA**  
234 compilation and evaluation of the inputs and outputs and the potential environment impacts of  
235 a product system throughout its life-cycle

236 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-901:2013, 901-07-13]

237 **3.11**  
238 **end of life**  
239 **EOL**  
240 life-cycle stage of a product starting when it is finally removed from its intended use-phase

241 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-901:2013, 901-07-15]

242 **3.12**  
243 **recycling**  
244 processing of waste materials for the original purpose or for other purposes, excluding energy  
245 recovery

246 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-901;2013, 901-07-10]

247 **3.13**  
248 **reuse**  
249 operations by which secondary batteries are used again in the same application as when first  
250 placed on the market

251 Note 1 to entry: See Annex C for alternative common terms

252 Note 2 to entry: When reuse of secondary batteries is as originally intended from the design stage, this is considered  
253 "originally intended reuse". When reuse of secondary batteries is not originally intended from the design stage, this  
254 is considered "originally unintended reuse".

255 Note 3 to entry: An example of reuse is when a battery is extracted from an EV, its battery lifetime traceability data  
256 is assessed, its BMS operating region is narrowed, and it is used again in another less demanding EV.

257 **3.14**258 **repurposing**

259 operation by which secondary batteries are used again in a different application to when first  
260 placed on the market

261 Note 1 to entry: See Annex C for alternative common terms

262 Note 2 to entry: When repurposing of secondary batteries is as originally intended from the design stage, this is  
263 considered "originally intended repurposing". When repurposing of secondary batteries is not originally intended from  
264 the design stage, this is considered "originally unintended repurposing".

265 Note 3 to entry: An example of repurposing is when a battery is extracted from an EV, its battery lifetime traceability  
266 data is assessed, its BMS operating region is narrowed, and it is used again in another less demanding application  
267 such as an energy backup system for telecom equipment.

268 **3.15**269 **reuse or repurposed application**

270 application in which a cell or battery or battery system is used after undergoing reuse or  
271 repurposing operations

272 **3.16**273 **secondary cell**

274 basic manufactured unit providing a source of electrical energy by direct conversion of chemical  
275 energy, that consists of electrodes, separators, electrolyte, container and terminals, and that is  
276 designed to be charged electrically

277 [SOURCE: IEC 62133-1, IEC 62133-2]

278 **3.17**279 **secondary battery**

280 assembly of secondary cell(s) which may include associated safety and control circuits and  
281 case, ready for use as a source of electrical energy characterized by its voltage, size, terminal  
282 arrangement, capacity and rate capability

283 Note 1 to entry: Includes single cell batteries

284 [SOURCE: IEC 63218:2021, definition 3.20 modified]

285 **3.18**286 **battery system**287 **battery**

288 system which comprises one or more cells, modules or battery packs

289 Note 1 to entry: It has a battery management system to cut off in case of overcharge, overcurrent, overdischarge,  
290 and overheating.

291 Note 2 to entry: The battery system may have cooling or heating units. More than one battery system may  
292 constitute a larger battery system. The battery system is sometimes also referred to as a battery.

293 Note 3 to entry: Overdischarge cut off is not mandatory if there is an agreement between the battery manufacturer  
294 and the customer.

295 [SOURCE: IEC 62619 modified]

296 **3.19**297 **battery pack**

298 energy storage device, which is comprised of one or more cells or modules electrically  
299 connected and has monitoring circuitry which provides information (e.g. cell voltage) to a  
300 battery system to influence the battery's safety, performance and/or service life

301 Note 1 to entry: It may incorporate a protective housing and be provided with terminals or other interconnection  
302 arrangement.

303 [SOURCE: IEC 62619]

304 **3.20**  
305 **secondary lithium ion cell**  
306 **Li-ion cell**  
307 secondary cell with an organic solvent electrolyte and positive and negative electrodes which  
308 utilize an intercalation or insertion compound in which lithium is stored

309 Note 1 to entry: lithium ion cells do not include lithium metal

310 [SOURCE: IEC 60050-482:2004, 482-05-07 modified]

311 **3.21**  
312 **secondary lithium ion battery**  
313 **Li-ion battery**  
314 secondary battery with assembly of secondary lithium ion cells

315 **3.22**  
316 **secondary nickel metal hydride cell**  
317 **Ni-MH cell**  
318 cell containing a nickel hydroxide compound for the positive electrode, a hydrogen absorbing  
319 alloy for the negative electrode, and potassium hydroxide or other alkaline solution as  
320 electrolyte, and not releasing either gas or liquid when operated within the limits specified by  
321 the manufacturer

322 Note 1 to entry: A sealed cell may be equipped with a safety device to prevent a dangerously high internal pressure  
323 and is designed to operate during its life in its original sealed state.

324 [SOURCE: IEC 63115-1, definition 3.1]

325 **3.23**  
326 **secondary nickel metal hydride battery**  
327 **Ni-MH battery**  
328 secondary battery with assembly of nickel metal hydride cells

329 **3.24**  
330 **state of health**  
331 **SOH**  
332 secondary battery's state of degradation calculated as a percentage of its original specifications

333 Note 1 to entry: considers factors such as permanent capacity loss, resistance, cycle life etc.

334 **3.25**  
335 **module**  
336 group of cells connected together either in a series and/or parallel configuration with or  
337 without protective devices (e.g. fuse or PTC) and monitoring circuitry

338 [SOURCE: IEC 62619]

339 **3.26**  
340 **battery management system**  
341 **BMS**  
342 electronic system associated with a battery which has functions to cut off in case of  
343 overcharge, overcurrent, overdischarge, and overheating and which monitors and/or manages  
344 its battery state, calculates secondary battery data, reports that data and/or controls manages  
345 its battery environment to influence the battery's safety, performance and/or service life

346 Note 1 to entry: Overdischarge cut off is not mandatory if there is an agreement between the battery manufacturer  
347 and the customer.

349 Note 2 to entry: The function of the BMS can be assigned to the battery pack or to the application that uses the  
350 battery. (See IEC 62619 subclause 8.2.1 for Li-ion and IEC 63115-2 subclause 7.1 for Ni-MH)

351 Note 3 to entry: The BMS can be divided and it can be found partially in the battery pack and partially on the  
352 application that uses the battery. (See IEC 62619 subclause 8.2.1 for Li-ion and IEC 63115-2 subclause 7.1 for Ni-

353 MH)  
354 Note 4 to entry: The BMS is sometimes also referred to as a BMU (battery management unit)

355 [SOURCE: IEC 62619 modified]

### 356 3.27

#### 357 **original manufacturer**

358 manufacturer(s) of cells, batteries, battery systems (original battery manufacturer), battery  
359 packs and/or the application that they are first placed on the market with (original application  
360 manufacturer), who determines whether reuse or repurposing is intended from the design stage

361 Note 1 to entry: Intention to reuse or repurpose is determined by approval in writing from the original battery  
362 manufacturer and/or original application manufacturer. Even if the original battery and application manufacturers are  
363 the same, the intention to reuse or repurpose is clarified via the label (see clause 7.2).

### 364 3.28

#### 365 **battery provider**

366 party that is responsible for relevant cells and batteries, but is not the original manufacturer or  
367 reuse or repurposed application manufacturer

368 Note 1 to entry: The battery provider may be a distributor, trader, or similar and engages with the original  
369 manufacturer and reuse or repurposed application manufacturer with approval in writing.

### 370 3.29

#### 371 **operating region**

372 conditions during charging and discharging in which the cell operates within its voltage, current  
373 and temperature range as specified by the cell manufacturer

### 374 3.30

#### 375 **portable battery**

376 battery for use in an end-use product or in an appliance which is conveniently hand-carried

377 Note 1 to entry: applications which use portable batteries typically do not record battery lifetime traceability data

378 [SOURCE: IEC 63218 modified]

## 379 **General Considerations**

380 In order to reduce adverse environmental impacts, the opportunity to use materials again should  
381 be considered as part of environmentally conscious design (ECD). Examples include the  
382 recovery and reuse or repurposing of products (e.g., electronic subassemblies, semiconductor  
383 devices, and safety devices), which are physically combined with batteries. However, it is not  
384 always possible and can sometimes be extremely difficult to effectively and safely reuse or  
385 repurpose batteries that are collected, because there is a possibility of having received  
386 damaged batteries which can affect safety. The size and original application of a secondary cell  
387 or battery will have a large impact on whether reuse or repurposing can be considered.  
388 Examples of types of batteries that shall not be reused or repurposed are single cells or cell  
389 assemblies if battery lifetime traceability data is not recorded (see clause 6.2). Originally  
390 unintended reuse or repurposing may have a much higher safety risk than originally intended  
391 reuse or repurposing.

392 The base for starting reuse or repurposing operations is an approval in writing between the  
393 reuse or repurposed application manufacturers and the original manufacturers (and battery  
394 provider if applicable). This is needed to improve safety and performance in reused or  
395 repurposed batteries based on clauses 5, 6, 7, and 8 of this document as well as based on the  
396 original manufacturers' safety information for both batteries and battery components.

397 The original manufacturer should be responsible for the original use of relevant cells and  
398 batteries, and should not be responsible for the reuse or repurposing of relevant cells and  
399 batteries.

400 NOTE: Approval in writing can be contractual agreement, a memorandum of understanding, approval to reuse or  
401 repurpose via the original battery label, etc.

402 This document outlines and provides guidance on the safety risks associated with reuse and  
403 repurposing. Additionally, this document provides guidance on coordination between the  
404 original and reuse or repurposed application and battery manufacturers regarding the  
405 applicability of a product for reuse or repurposing.

406 If this document is observed, the risk of occurrence of the following hazards is reduced:

- 407 a) fire,
- 408 b) explosion,
- 409 c) leakage of cell electrolyte,
- 410 d) venting,
- 411 e) rupture of the casing of cell, module, battery pack, and battery system with exposure of  
412 internal components.
- 413 f) electrical hazards
- 414 g) impaired functional safety

415 Note: Potential risks are described in IEC 62619 ED2, and IEC 63115-2 ED1.

## 416 **Consideration of Safety Risks Associated with Reuse and Repurposing**

### 417 **5.1 General**

418 Secondary batteries including secondary lithium ion and nickel-metal hydride are generally  
419 available in the market for use in applications such as electric vehicles, energy storage systems,  
420 PCs and mobile phones.

421 Among them, secondary lithium ion batteries are widely used from portable devices to EVs and  
422 large-scale systems such as energy storage systems because of their high energy density and  
423 charge/discharge efficiency. In addition, nickel-metal hydride batteries are widely used in  
424 portable applications that accept alkaline batteries, in energy storage systems, and in vehicles  
425 as part of hybrid electric systems.

426 Secondary lithium ion batteries are widely available in the market due to their excellent  
427 characteristics as energy storage devices, but compared to other battery chemistries, there are  
428 high risks of safety incidents from secondary lithium ion batteries, and even more care has to  
429 be taken when designing, producing and using (including reuse and repurposing) secondary  
430 lithium ion battery systems and packs. These are strictly regulated in transport, safety and  
431 product design standards to improve safety in cells, battery packs or systems, and under all  
432 operating conditions as specified by the cell or battery manufacturer. Nickel-metal hydride  
433 batteries are safer from a chemistry point of view, however deviation from the use conditions  
434 intended by the original battery manufacturer can still result in safety issues.

435 Therefore, in actual use, safety is improved by using battery systems that are designed with  
436 functional safety methods so as not to deviate from the specified usage and handling methods.

437 If components (or modules) are removed or exchanged from a safely designed battery system,  
438 or the battery system is modified (hardware, software) without checking battery lifetime  
439 traceability data or considering appropriate design to improve safety, safety related incidents  
440 are more likely to occur (or happen).

441 The reuse or repurposed application manufacturer shall confirm whether reuse or repurposing  
442 is permissible and assess battery lifetime traceability data from the original manufacturer (refer  
443 to clause 6.2.1 of this document). They shall also assess the requirements of the reuse or  
444 repurposed application, and design an appropriate battery system to improve safety.

445 The following relevant cells and battery safety standards should be referenced.

446 e.g. automotive / vehicle:

- 447 - IEC 62660-3
- 448 - IEC 61982-4
- 449 - ISO 6469-1
- 450 - UN ECE R100
- 451 - UN ECE R136
- 452 - UN GTR No.20

453 Stationary:

- 454 - IEC 62619
- 455 - IEC 63056
- 456 - IEC 62933-5-2 ED1
- 457 - IEC 63115-2

## 458 **5.2 Lithium ion systems**

### 459 **5.2.1 Secondary lithium ion cells**

460 Secondary lithium ion cells are energy storage devices that utilise the movement of lithium ions  
461 to perform mutual conversion between chemical energy and electrical energy, and realize  
462 mutual energy conversion by causing a specific electrochemical reaction during charging and  
463 discharging. In order to maintain safety and performance, and achieve smooth energy  
464 conversion, it is essential to ensure the intended electrochemical reactions occur without side  
465 reactions. For those reasons, cell manufacturers should specify how to use and handle each  
466 cell. If this method of use or handling is deviated from, the chemical energy stored in the cell  
467 will not be properly controlled, abnormal reactions will progress rapidly, and the energy cannot  
468 be contained in the cell. This may result in safety incidents such as fire, explosion, leakage,  
469 venting and rupture.

### 470 **5.2.2 Secondary lithium ion battery systems**

471 The usage and handling methods specified in subclause 5.2.1 include many outside factors that  
472 are controlled at the battery level, such as charge and discharge voltage, current range, and  
473 temperature range. Battery systems shall be configured to prevent abnormal events, and to  
474 improve safety by electrically and mechanically controlling and protecting the battery.

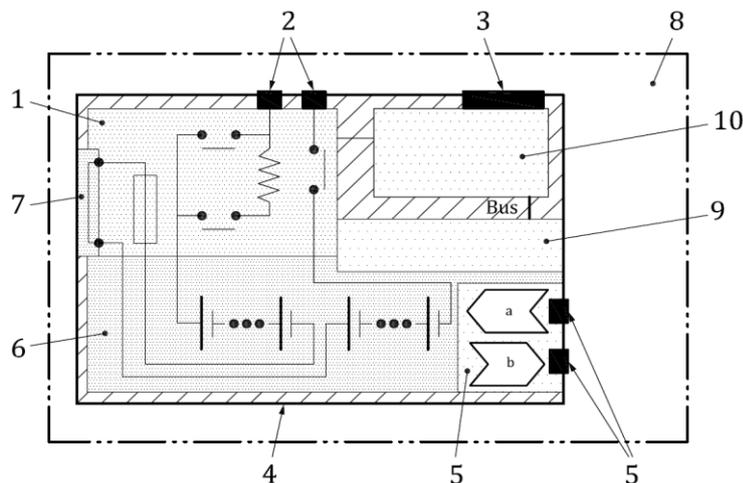
475 NOTE 1: Further details can be found in IEC 62619, Annex A

476 Secondary lithium ion battery systems are designed with consideration of safety and battery  
477 characteristics based on the requirements and conditions of the application while complying  
478 with the cell usage and handling methods specified by the battery manufacturer. In a safely-  
479 designed battery system, it is necessary to configure each functional element via methods such  
480 as functional safety and to secure a sufficient level of safety against foreseeable events. A  
481 battery system configuration example is shown in figure 2 (source: ISO 12405-4: 2018 Annex  
482 A). Although not shown in the figure, a dedicated charger and external cooling device, if  
483 necessary, are included in a safely designed battery system.

484 Figure 2 shows one example of a battery system. It includes a BMS, which in some cases can  
485 also be outside the battery system. As an example, a vehicle battery can have an integrated  
486 BMS or a BMS implemented in a control unit in a different place within the vehicle. This should  
487 be considered when removing the battery system from the vehicle and possibly reusing or  
488 repurposing it.

489 Further, a battery system is individually designed and, depending on application, the topology  
 490 may be different. Thus, the BMS can also be outside the battery pack, in a separate control unit  
 491 or even in the charger or in the application it powers. This is dependent on the system design  
 492 and topology. Thus a solution cannot be prescribed in general, but should be considered  
 493 individually. Care should be taken especially on this point, when removing a battery system  
 494 from an application, regardless of it being a vehicle, light electric vehicle or stationary system.

495 NOTE 2: Further details can be seen in IEC 62619 subclause 8.2.1



496

497 Key

- 498 1) Electric circuit (contactors, fuses, wiring)  
 499 2) Connectors for power line  
 500 3) Connectors for battery management system  
 501 4) Normal use impact-resistance case  
 502 5) Cooling device and connections (a: in, b: out)  
 503 6) Cell assembly  
 504 7) Service disconnect  
 505 8) Battery pack  
 506 9) Cell electronics  
 507 10) Battery management system

508 **Figure 2 – Battery System Configuration Example**

### 509 5.3 Nickel systems

#### 510 5.3.1 Nickel metal-hydride cells

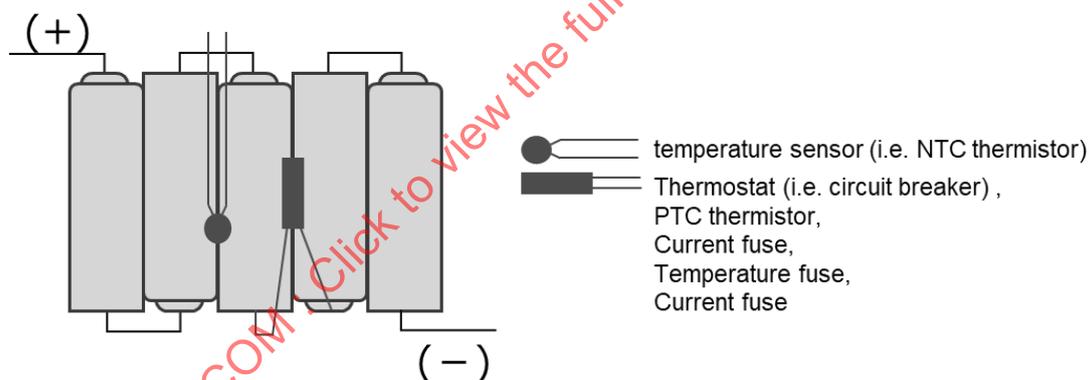
511 The nickel metal-hydride cell makes electrochemical use of the reversibility of the hydrogen  
 512 absorption/release reaction in the hydrogen absorbing alloy. The cell uses a nickel hydroxide  
 513 compound for the positive electrode, a hydrogen absorbing alloy for the negative electrode, and  
 514 an aqueous alkaline solution for the electrolyte, which includes constituents such as potassium  
 515 hydroxide (KOH). During charging, the electrolytic reaction of water causes the hydrogen, which  
 516 forms in atomic form on the surface of the hydrogen absorbing alloy in the negative electrode,  
 517 to diffuse into and be absorbed by the alloy (charge reaction). During discharge, the absorbed  
 518 hydrogen reacts with the hydroxide ions at the surface of the hydrogen absorbing alloy to once  
 519 again become water (discharge reaction).

### 5.3.2 Nickel metal-hydride cells and battery systems

Nickel-metal hydride cells and batteries have a higher tolerance to overcharge and overdischarge than secondary lithium ion batteries. However in the event of excessive overcharge and overdischarge, internal pressure can build inside the cells and leakage can occur. Nickel-metal hydride cells and batteries have a gas release vent in order to prevent excessive pressure, however in extreme conditions deterioration can occur. For example, in a large assembly of cells, heat can accumulate around the innermost cells in case of overcharge at high temperatures and battery life will be reduced. When utilizing an assembly of cells in an application, heat dissipation should be considered. In order to minimize these safety risks, nickel-metal hydride cells and batteries should not be used outside of the conditions intended by the battery manufacturer.

Nickel-metal hydride battery systems are designed with consideration of safety and battery characteristics based on the requirements and conditions of the application while complying with the cell usage and handling methods specified by the battery manufacturer. In a safely designed battery system, each functional element is configured via methods such as functional safety to secure sufficient safety against reasonably foreseeable misuse.

When designing an assembled nickel-metal hydride pack it is necessary to install protective devices in consideration of charger abnormalities or external short circuits. Attach a temperature sensor (i.e. NTC thermistor) to the battery pack to protect the temperature on the charger side. Depending on the charging and discharging conditions, a combination of a thermostat (circuit breaker), temperature fuse, current fuse, PTC thermistor, etc. is included in the battery pack to protect the temperature and current on the battery pack side as shown in Figure 3.



543

544

Figure 3 – Example of Protection Device Installation

## 545 Considerations for Reused or Repurposed Battery Systems

### 546 6.1 General

547 Unlike new cells, cells that have undergone original use are exposed to varying environments,  
548 usage and handling history, and degree of damage and deterioration, resulting in inconsistent  
549 quality. In addition, this inconsistency is not limited to a single characteristic, but is complex  
550 and diversified. These result in issues when making estimates, and selecting specific  
551 parameters. Also, evaluation via sampling is difficult and inaccurate. For safety evaluation of  
552 relevant cells and batteries, most existing safety standard test methods are destructive tests,  
553 which are not suitable for the evaluation of reused or repurposed batteries of non-uniform  
554 quality, and general methods for non-destructive safety evaluation are not established at the  
555 time of publication. Therefore, the safety evaluation of relevant cells and batteries shall be  
556 conducted using battery lifetime traceability data to confirm that appropriate usage and handling  
557 parameters (as decided at the design stage) were not exceeded during original use, and can

558 be maintained during reuse or repurposing. Therefore, single cells shall not be reused or  
559 repurposed without appropriate battery lifetime traceability data (see 6.2.1).

560 If there are differences in safety goals between the original use and the repurposed application,  
561 differences in standards for these applications may exist. These differences should be  
562 considered and evaluated. In some cases, it may be necessary to perform tests on new cells or  
563 modules.

564 The impact on existing parts or product qualifications / evaluations caused by extraction of parts  
565 like modules, cells or other components should be considered and evaluated. This is true for  
566 all disassembly and assembly measures performed on a battery system to build a repurposed  
567 application.

## 568 **6.2 Determining suitability for reuse or repurposing (based on battery lifetime** 569 **traceability data)**

570 In order to improve safety during reuse or repurposing, i.e. whether or not a relevant cell or  
571 battery can be reused or repurposed, shall be determined based on battery lifetime traceability  
572 data recorded during original use. Therefore, relevant cells and batteries extracted from  
573 applications that do not have battery lifetime traceability data shall not be reused or repurposed.  
574 The type of battery lifetime traceability data varies depending on application and design,  
575 however clause 6.2.1 should be referred to for general examples.  
576

577 The reuse or repurposed application manufacturer should confirm the status of the following  
578 items based on reuse/repurposing standards, and local laws and regulations:

- 579 – safety
- 580 – product quality
- 581 – safety, product and transport testing
- 582 – end of life treatment
- 583 – recycling
- 584 – other legal or governmental responsibilities

585 The development of battery health checks should also be considered as a future option and  
586 based on risk assessment. The following parameters should be considered:

- 587 – capacity
- 588 – internal resistance (at different, characteristic frequencies...)

589 The responsibility for this development lies with the reuse or repurpose manufacturer.

590 The original manufacturer shall be consulted as to the minimum capacity level of a cell which  
591 is safe for operation.

592 NOTE: A health check cannot show details of the internal state inside the cell regarding safety or failure probability.

593 Regarding removal of original labels see clause 8.1.

594 NOTE: The above data may be stored in the battery management system, other storage devices in the application  
595 or external storage devices.

### 596 **6.2.1 Battery lifetime traceability data**

597 Battery lifetime traceability data includes original use data, storage data after extraction, and  
598 data recorded during the reuse or repurposing assessment such as described below. Battery  
599 lifetime traceability data is useful for the reuse or repurposing assessment. The reuse or  
600 repurposed application manufacturer shall contact the original manufacturer in order to access  
601 the battery lifetime traceability data. The following are examples of battery lifetime traceability  
602 data that the reuse or repurposed application manufacturer should access.

603 History of:

- 604 • Overcharge
- 605 • Overdischarge
- 606 • Overcurrent
- 607 • Overtemperature
- 608 • Insulation failure
- 609 • Accidents (e.g. external short-circuit, insulation failure, excessive shock and/or vibration,  
610 abnormal storage, BMS self-diagnosis result)
- 611 • Storage conditions (e.g. storage period, environment, etc.)

### 612 **6.3 Safety evaluation of reused or repurposed batteries**

613 Regarding the redesign of relevant secondary batteries, the use and BMS conditions in which  
614 relevant secondary batteries are first placed on the market (as designed by the original  
615 manufacturer) should not be modified at the time of reuse or repurposing without the contractual  
616 agreement of the original manufacturer.

617 The safety evaluation of reused or repurposed batteries is different than that of new batteries  
618 due to the non-uniformity of their quality, and due to sample batteries not being available for  
619 destructive testing. General methods for non-destructive safety evaluation are not yet  
620 established at the time of publication. As a result, during development of battery systems, they  
621 should be evaluated and tested for safety during both original use and reuse or repurposing. If  
622 a battery system has not been evaluated and tested for multiple uses, in order to improve safety,  
623 there should be no deviation from the originally designed use-conditions and system controls.

624 Limiting the usage parameter range for certain parameters is possible in risk assessment.

### 625 **6.4 Reused or repurposed cell and battery operating region**

626 The original relevant cell operating region (voltage range, environmental temperature, etc.)  
627 shall not be extended during reuse or repurposing, and should be possibly narrowed in order  
628 to improve safety.

629 If the battery system is modified, the reuse or repurposed application manufacturer shall consult  
630 with the original manufacturer and should have approval in writing for the operation. The reuse  
631 or repurposed application manufacturer should pass the functional safety requirements of IEC  
632 61508 Functional safety of electrical/electronic/programmable electronic safety related systems,  
633 IEC 62619, Annex H of IEC 60730-1, or other suitable functional safety standard.

## 634 **Coordination on Reuse or Repurposed with the Original Manufacturer**

### 635 **7.1 General**

636 The reuse or repurposing of relevant cells and battery packs or battery systems has safety risks  
637 including those discussed in clause 5, and as a result, the reuse or repurposed application  
638 manufacturer shall confirm whether reuse or repurposing has been discouraged by the original  
639 manufacturer such as via the product label or other methods.

640 NOTE: If reuse or repurposing -relevant information is not included on the product label or manual, refer to 7.2.3.

### 641 **7.2 Caution statements on reuse or repurposing applicability**

642 In some countries and regions reuse or repurposed application product liability may be  
643 determined to be the responsibility of the original manufacturer rather than the reuse or  
644 repurposed application manufacturer. In order to avoid these issues, or for safety-related  
645 reasons, the reuse or repurposing manufacturer shall make sure with the original manufacturer,

646 that reuse or repurposing is possible and legally allowed and under which conditions. In any  
647 case, the reuse or repurposed application manufacturer should accept product liability. However,  
648 if an original manufacturer wishes to discourage the reuse or repurposing of their products,  
649 other environmentally conscious design (ECD) principles based on IEC 62430 ED2 should be  
650 considered as an alternative.

651 The manufacturer of the cell shall be consulted as to the minimum capacity level of a cell which  
652 is safe for operation.

### 653 **7.2.1 Originally intended reuse or repurposing (according to the original** 654 **manufacturer)**

655 If reuse or repurposing was originally intended by the original manufacturer, relevant cells and  
656 batteries should be labelled with a similar statement to the following, "Before reusing or  
657 repurposing this product, approval in writing should be received from the original manufacturer".

658 Note: If reuse or repurposing was not originally intended by the original manufacturer, relevant cells and batteries  
659 may be labelled with a statement similar to the following, "This product was not designed to be reused or repurposed.  
660 It should not be used in any way other than as originally intended by the original manufacturer".

### 661 **7.2.2 Caution statement requesting the approval of reuse or repurposing to the** 662 **original manufacturer.**

663 If reuse or repurposing was not decided by the original manufacturer, the reuse or repurposed  
664 application manufacturer shall contact the original manufacturer to determine whether reuse or  
665 repurposing is possible or not; and relevant cells and batteries should be labelled with a similar  
666 statement to the following: "May be reused or repurposed only after receiving approval in writing  
667 from the original manufacturer".

### 668 **7.2.3 Absence of caution statement**

669 Due to limited space, including a caution statement at the cell level may not be possible. As a  
670 result, caution statement information should be shared via QR code, barcode, or similar,  
671 included at the battery pack or module level, or included on the product instruction manual.

672 If a caution statement is not available, the reuse or repurposed application manufacturer shall  
673 contact the original manufacturer in order to determine whether reuse or repurposing is possible.

## 674 **Recommendations for Reuse or Repurposed Application Manufacturers**

### 675 **8.1 Removal of original cell or battery label and markings**

676 The decision to remove, replace, or amend original cell or battery labels and markings should  
677 be made based on approval in writing between the original and reuse or repurposed application  
678 manufacturers. This refers to labelling information, name and address, logo and all other  
679 corporate identity signs.

### 680 **8.2 Affixation of label or marking specifying reuse or repurposing**

681 Reuse or repurposed application manufacturers should mark or label batteries to specify they  
682 have been reused or repurposed.

### 683 **8.3 Prerequisites for reuse or repurposed application manufacturers**

684 The reuse or repurposed application manufacturer shall prepare and implement a quality plan  
685 that defines procedures for the inspection of materials, components, cells, modules, battery  
686 packs, and battery systems which covers the whole process of reuse or repurposing cells and  
687 batteries (e.g. ISO 9001, etc.). Reuse or repurposed manufacturers should understand their  
688 process capabilities and should institute the necessary process controls as they relate to the  
689 reuse or repurposed product safety.

690 The following are recommended for reuse or repurposed application manufacturers:

- 691 – Knowledge about original battery and its current state (including confirmation of original
- 692 battery certification status)
- 693 – Sufficient skills
- 694 – Professional tools and equipment
- 695 – Knowledge about production and remanufacturing processes
- 696 – Test equipment

697 NOTE: The documents included in Annex B provide useful information for reuse and repurposing which can be  
698 referred to once the contents of IEC 63338 are fully understood.

### 699 **Environmental Options in Case Reuse or Repurposing is Not Possible**

700 At an original application's end-of-life, reuse or repurposing should be considered in order to  
701 minimise adverse environmental impacts over the application's lifecycle. However, if approval  
702 in writing to reuse or repurpose cannot be reached between the original and reuse or  
703 repurposed application manufacturers, or if as a result of battery assessment, it has been  
704 determined that reuse or repurposing cannot be safely conducted, waste batteries should be  
705 recycled based on the requirements of local regulations.

706 When economically feasible and determined by LCA to have a lesser environmental impact than  
707 the use of virgin materials, recycled battery materials should be reutilised in the manufacture  
708 of new cells and batteries.

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