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# EU Batteries Regulation (EU) 2023/1542

## Regulatory Signals · September 2026

A Regulatory watch on the EU Batteries Regulation: the passport deadline, the late rulebooks behind it, recycled-content rules, due diligence and conformity standards. Read for a North American maker of modules, packs and containerized storage systems that buys LFP cells. Four signals from one cycle.

| # | SIGNAL                                                                                                                                                                          | CONFIDENCE | HORIZON                  | STATUS   |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 1 | EU battery passports become mandatory on February 18, 2027, but the rules on who may see passport data were still a working draft in May 2026, listed for adoption in Q4        | High       | Short-term (3–12 months) | Verified |
| 2 | The Commission's deadlines to adopt EU carbon-footprint and recycled-content rules have passed, and the one draft we could confirm only went out for comment on August 14, 2026 | Medium     | Short-term (3–12 months) | Review   |
| 3 | EU recycled-content minimums start in 2031 with lithium at 6%, rising to 12% in 2036, while the method to calculate them is still a draft                                       | Medium     | Long-term (1–3 years)    | Review   |
| 4 | EU battery due diligence was pushed back two years to August 18, 2027, and a Council text would exempt companies with turnover under EUR 200 million                            | Medium     | Short-term (3–12 months) | Review   |

Every signal rests on two or more dated events. Confidence is published as a band. Where a signal sits below High, the reasoning names the evidence that is missing. Status says where the evidence stands: Verified, Review, or Inconclusive — we looked, and the evidence does not yet support a firmer call.

## SIGNAL 1 OF 4

## EU battery passports become mandatory on February 18, 2027, but the rules on who may see passport data were still a working draft in May 2026, listed for adoption in Q4

**HIGH** Short-term (3–12 months) · Regulatory Agency Actions · **Verified**

The European Commission's battery passport page states that the passport becomes mandatory on February 18, 2027 and is linked to the battery through a QR code. The implementing act on access rights, which sets who may see non-public passport data, was a working draft in front of the Commission's battery expert group on April 29, 2026. A Commission slide deck dated May 27, 2026 lists that act under Q4 2026.

### REASONING

The date is stated by the Commission itself, so the status is Verified for the date only. The access-rights act is the part still moving. A fixed date with an unfinished rulebook means the build for access controls and data sharing has to start before the final text exists. The band is held at High because the date is close and the work behind a passport takes months. It applies only if you ship systems to the EU.

### PATTERN

April 29, 2026: a working draft of the access-rights implementing act went to the Commission's battery expert group. May 27, 2026: Commission slides list the act under Q4 2026 and say the draft will go to public consultation and WTO notification in the coming months. July 20, 2026: the Commission's timeline shows the passport registry becoming operational (the timeline is marked indicative). February 18, 2027: the battery passport becomes mandatory.

### IMPLICATION

If you ship systems to the EU, the passport clock is fixed while the access rules are not. Data fields can be mapped now, but permission rules for customers, authorities and recyclers may change when the final act lands. Q4 is a target, and a late act would leave little time between its adoption and the February date.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

This quarter, if you ship systems to the EU, start your passport and QR-code build now, and ask counsel what applies if the access rules arrive late.

### SOURCES & WHAT THEY SIGNAL

- [European Commission — Batteries digital product passport](#) — States the February 18, 2027 mandatory date, the QR-code link and the July 20, 2026 registry date; timelines marked indicative.
- [European Commission — Digital product passport presentation, May 27, 2026](#) — Working draft of the Article 77(9) access-rights act sent to the expert group on April 29; act listed under Q4 2026.

## SIGNAL 2 OF 4

## The Commission's deadlines to adopt EU carbon-footprint and recycled-content rules have passed, and the one draft we could confirm only went out for comment on August 14, 2026

**MEDIUM** Short-term (3–12 months) · Regulatory Agency Actions · **Review**

The Regulation set fixed dates for the Commission to adopt the rules that make its obligations workable. The carbon-footprint method for electric-vehicle batteries was due February 18, 2024 and for industrial batteries February 18, 2025. The recycled-content method and the industrial performance-class act were due August 18, 2026. We could confirm one draft: the recycled-content act, notified on August 14, 2026.

### REASONING

A late rulebook does not move the obligation. It moves the point at which a maker can know what to do. Several deadlines have now passed across separate topics, which points to a slow pipeline. We could not confirm an adopted carbon-footprint act. The band is held at Medium because the effect on a maker depends on EU sales and on how stationary systems are classified under the Regulation.

### PATTERN

February 18, 2024: deadline to adopt the carbon-footprint method for electric-vehicle batteries. February 18, 2025: the same deadline for rechargeable industrial batteries other than those with external storage. August 14, 2026: the Commission notified a draft recycled-content delegated act to the WTO, with comments open to October 13, 2026. August 18, 2026: deadline for the recycled-content act and for the industrial performance-class act.

### IMPLICATION

If you ship systems to the EU, you may be asked for carbon-footprint and recycled-content data before the calculation rules are final. Cell suppliers will be asked the same questions. Whether your stationary systems fall under the "external storage" wording is a question for counsel, because it changes which dates and duties apply.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

In the next 60 days, ask counsel whether your containerized systems fall under the Regulation's external-storage wording, and ask your cell suppliers what carbon-footprint and recycled-content data they can supply today.

### SOURCES & WHAT THEY SIGNAL

- [EUR-Lex — Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1542, consolidated text of July 31, 2025](#) — Article 7 adoption deadlines of February 18, 2024, February 18, 2025 and August 18, 2026.
- [WTO TBT — notification G/TBT/N/EU/1233, recycled-content delegated act](#) — Draft notified August 14, 2026; comments close October 13, 2026.

## SIGNAL 3 OF 4

## EU recycled-content minimums start in 2031 with lithium at 6%, rising to 12% in 2036, while the method to calculate them is still a draft

**MEDIUM** Long-term (1–3 years) · Regulatory Agency Actions · **Review**

Article 8 sets minimum shares of recovered material in battery active materials. From August 18, 2031 the minimums are cobalt 16%, lead 85%, lithium 6% and nickel 6%. From August 18, 2036 they are cobalt 26%, lead 85%, lithium 12% and nickel 15%. The Commission was due to adopt the calculation method by August 18, 2026, and a draft went out for comment on August 14, 2026.

### REASONING

For a maker of LFP-based systems, lithium is the figure to watch: 6% and then 12%. The cobalt, lead and nickel minimums apply to batteries that contain those metals. The percentages are in the Regulation itself, so only the method is open. The band is held at Medium because the dates are years away and the scope depends on how your products are classified and on EU sales.

### PATTERN

August 14, 2026: the Commission notified the draft calculation and verification method to the WTO, with comments open to October 13, 2026. August 18, 2026: the legal deadline for that act. August 18, 2028: the documentation duty on recovered-material shares starts, or 24 months after the act enters into force if that is later. August 18, 2031: first minimum shares apply. August 18, 2036: higher shares apply.

### IMPLICATION

If you ship systems to the EU, recycled lithium content will become a purchasing question for your cell suppliers. Cell makers will need recovered-lithium supply and a way to document it, and that cost will reach your cell price. The documentation duty arrives well before the 2031 minimum.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

In the first half of 2027, add a recycled-content data request to your cell supplier questionnaire, and ask what recovered-lithium plans they have for 2031.

### SOURCES & WHAT THEY SIGNAL

- [EUR-Lex — Regulation \(EU\) 2023/1542, consolidated text of July 31, 2025](#) — Article 8: the August 18, 2026 adoption deadline, the documentation start date and the 2031 and 2036 minimums.
- [European Commission JRC — recycled-content shares for industrial, EV and SLI batteries](#) — Confirms the 2031 and 2036 minimums for industrial batteries above 2 kWh.
- [WTO TBT — notification G/TBT/N/EU/1233, recycled-content delegated act](#) — Draft method notified August 14, 2026; comments close October 13, 2026.

SIGNAL 4 OF 4

## EU battery due diligence was pushed back two years to August 18, 2027, and a Council text would exempt companies with turnover under EUR 200 million

**MEDIUM** Short-term (3–12 months) · Legislative & Statutory Activity · **Review**

Regulation (EU) 2025/1561, dated July 18, 2025, moved the start of battery due diligence under Article 48 from August 18, 2025 to August 18, 2027. It also moved the Commission's guidelines date to July 26, 2026. A Council note dated June 26, 2026 describes a further change: no due diligence duty for operators with net turnover under EUR 200 million, unless they belong to a group at or above that level.

### REASONING

The postponement is adopted law. The turnover exemption is a proposed amending text in the Council note, so it is not yet in force. The test counts group consolidated turnover, so a mid-size maker owned by a larger group may not qualify. The band is held at Medium because the exemption could change your duty, but its outcome is not settled.

### PATTERN

July 18, 2025: Regulation (EU) 2025/1561 sets the new Article 48 date of August 18, 2027. July 26, 2026: new date for the Commission's due diligence guidelines. June 3, 2026: negotiators reached agreement on the amending text. June 26, 2026: the Council's permanent representatives confirmed it. The same note adds a five-year review of due diligence policy reports and lets operators report inside their sustainability report.

### IMPLICATION

If you ship systems to the EU, you cannot yet count on an exemption. The test is net turnover and group consolidated turnover, and the text has not been finally adopted. Until it is, plan for August 18, 2027. Your cell and material suppliers face the same date and will ask you for supply-chain information.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

By the end of this quarter, ask finance for your net turnover and your group's consolidated turnover against the EUR 200 million test, and ask counsel to start a due diligence policy draft on the assumption the date holds.

### SOURCES & WHAT THEY SIGNAL

- [EUR-Lex — Regulation \(EU\) 2025/1561](#) — Act dated July 18, 2025; Article 48 date moved to August 18, 2027 and guidelines date to July 26, 2026.
- [Council of the EU — information note 10978/26, due diligence amendment](#) — June 26, 2026 note: EUR 200 million net turnover test with group consolidation, five-year reviews, consolidated reporting.

SET UP A SIGNAL ON YOUR QUESTION

## A watch on your question runs every cycle.

These signals came from one cycle of a standing watch. Name a company, a market or a regulation, and the watch keeps running whether or not anyone opens the platform. Every signal arrives rated for confidence and horizon, with the dated events behind it and the sources that carry the weight.

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