

PROTECTING THE FUTURE: THE LEAD BATTERY RECYCLING INDUSTRY'S IMPACT ON JOBS, THE ECONOMY, AND SUSTAINABILITY



The lead battery recycling industry plays a pivotal role in America's domestic infrastructure, ensuring a sustainable, secure, and resilient energy future. By efficiently collecting and processing spent lead batteries, this industry transforms spent batteries into valuable raw materials for new battery production, exemplifying one of the most successful closed-loop, circular economies in existence.

A Critical Part of America's Domestic Infrastructure

Lead battery recycling is more than just an environmental success – it's a cornerstone of U.S. manufacturing and supply chains. This industry plays a critical role in keeping essential materials available for domestic production, reducing reliance on foreign sources, and ensuring a stable supply chain.

- **A Vital Network** – The U.S. relies on only nine lead battery recycling facilities to sustain its battery supply chain, making them essential to domestic manufacturing and energy security.
- **A Century of Expertise** – For over 100 years, the industry has refined safe, efficient, and sustainable recycling processes to support domestic manufacturing.
- **Keeping Resources Local** – U.S. recyclers process over 438,000 lead batteries daily, ensuring a steady supply of raw materials for battery production while reducing dependence on foreign sources.



Driving American Industry & Jobs

The lead battery industry fuels economic growth, providing stable, well-paying jobs while generating billions in economic impact. These jobs support American workers and strengthen local communities.

- **A Nationwide Workforce** – More than 28,000 direct jobs and 106,000 total jobs are supported by the lead battery industry.
- **A Strong Economic Engine** – Contributes \$35 billion annually to the U.S. economy.
- **Well-Paying Careers** – Lead battery recycling salaries are 66% higher than the private sector average.



Ensuring Reliable Energy Storage for the U.S.

Lead batteries power critical industries, from transportation and telecommunications to renewable energy storage and national security. The recycling industry's ability to meet domestic demand to support battery manufacturing safeguards U.S. supply chains.

- **Meeting Domestic Demand** – 70% of U.S. lead demand is met by U.S. recyclers, reducing dependence on mining and imports.
- **Preventing Supply Chain Disruptions** – Without domestic lead battery recycling, the U.S. would need to import 1.6 million tons of lead annually to meet manufacturing needs.

A Sustainability Success Story

The lead battery recycling industry is a global leader in supporting sustainable manufacturing, setting the standard for circular economies. By continuously reusing materials, it conserves resources, reduces waste, and minimizes environmental impact.

- **99% Recycling Rate** – Lead batteries are the most recycled consumer product in the U.S.
- **Keeping Waste Out of Landfills** – Over 160 million lead batteries are kept out of landfills annually in the U.S.
- **Closing the Loop** – New lead batteries typically contain 80% recycled material, ensuring resources are continuously reused.



Committed to Safety & Environmental Protection

The U.S. industry operates under the strictest environmental, health, and safety regulations in the world. By investing in advanced technology and best practices, the lead battery recycling industry ensures both worker safety and environmental responsibility.

- **Significant Investment in Safety** – Lead battery recyclers allocate an average of 23% of their annual operating budget to environmental, health, and safety (EHS) programs.
- **Protecting Workers & Communities** – Recycling facilities implement state-of-the-art safety measures to safeguard employees and surrounding communities.

The Future Is Powered by Recycling

For more than a century, the U.S. lead battery recycling infrastructure has been an essential pillar of domestic manufacturing and sustainability. By maintaining and strengthening this established network, the U.S. secures its energy future while driving economic growth and environmental stewardship.

