



Safety & Logistics Group

B.I.G. Safety & Logistics Group
Terms of Reference

31st October 2019

PURPOSE

This Terms of Reference (ToR) document describes the terms of reference for the Safety & Logistics Group, a sub-working group of the Battery Industry Group.

BACKGROUND

Greater demand for high energy capacity, storage, and output from batteries has led to significant developments in battery technology. A diverse range of industries are utilising large high energy batteries for uses such as energy storage systems or electric vehicles (EVs). As performance of these batteries begins to wane or new technology emerges, these batteries can be part of a circular economy, by entering cycles of secondary use e.g. in stationary energy storage or end-of-life value extraction and disposal. Risks are created in the transportation, storage, handling and disposal of these batteries.

KEY DELIVERABLES

The Safety and Logistics Group (S&LG) has been tasked by the Battery Industry Group (B.I.G.) to provide evidence-based advice focusing on safety issues through to the end of life value chain that can be used by industry, regulators and the wider community about safe management of large high energy batteries and their constituent parts after their initial purposed use.

S&LG will endeavour to publish recommendations to consistently manage and mitigate risk involving:

- Handling of battery packs/modules/cells/other elements
- Storage of battery packs/modules/cells/other elements
- Removal of batteries from vehicles and energy storage systems

- Preparation of batteries/cells for storage and/or transport
- Transportation of battery packs/modules/cells/other elements (Road, rail, air, shipping)
- Management of used batteries at collection points
- Assessment of batteries
- Disposal of batteries - end of life
- And for the longer term, as battery volumes increase: Re-use of battery packs/modules/cells/other elements.

The guidelines will address risks from

- Fire
- Chemical risks (discharge of gas/liquids etc)
- Electrical discharges
- Manual handling
- Environmental risks.

METHODOLOGY

Through its member and sponsored research, the S&LG will collate knowledge of known risks and methodologies that can be practicably applied to mitigate or manage those risks. This will include utilising research opportunities to explore international practices and learnings as well as drawing on New Zealand based knowledge and research.

MEMBERSHIP

The S&LG membership will include:

- Chair, Fire & Emergency - Peter Wilding - National Manager
Fire Research and Investigation - Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ)
- Transportation - Freightways, Swire Shipping Group
- Built environment - BRANZ service agents and dismantlers
- Waste / End of battery life
 - Waste Management Ltd
 - NZ Association of Metal Recyclers (AMR)
- Automotive - BMW
- Electricity Sector / Battery use and retail - Vector

Other parties may request or be nominated to join S&LG and membership will be decided at bi-monthly meetings. These are likely to include Energy Safety, Environment Protection Authority (EPA), insurance representatives and researchers. See B.I.G. Sharepoint site for current list of members.

GOVERNANCE

All members will abide by the values, expectations and requirements set by the B.I.G. terms of Reference as applicable to the S&LG.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Updates of the S&LG will be provided to the B.I.G. at quarterly intervals. Findings will be communicated to the B.I.G. for

distribution through its members to influence NZ regulations, safe industry practices and safer community outcomes.

Interim guidelines should be published by 31st March 2020

Comprehensive safety guidelines to be published by 30th June 2020.

WORK PLAN, INCLUDING ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

The S&AG will meet bi-monthly (tele or video conference or face to face). Meeting frequency to be reassessed after 6 months or as work demands requires.

FUNDING

The S&LG does not have an allocated budget and all costs of operation will be met by members or through acquired sponsorship.

END