



FOUNDATION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT OF BATTERIES

ECOPILAS
ANNUAL REPORT
2017



ECOPILAS ANNUAL REPORT 2017





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1/
A WORD FROM
THE PRESIDENT_

1

A year of work that has paid off



As in previous years, it gives me great satisfaction to share Ecopilas foundation's progress report for the latest year. Satisfaction because, through this report, we would like to share not only the achievements and figures that have marked the foundation's activity in 2017, but also express our gratitude to the public, the authorities, the companies and the organisations who, with their support, contribute to our work.

Thanks to this collective effort, in 2017, we collected more than 3,000 tonnes of batteries and accumulators and the number of member companies grew to reach 811, which is a 7% increase on 2017. These figures confirm Ecopilas' position as the leading system and the best option in our country for meeting producer obligations to handle this type of waste appropriately.

With this aim, we have also worked to reach a total of 35,500 collection points of our own in 2017, distributed throughout Spain, through more than 3,000 collaboration agreements signed to support this network.

One prominent figure is the 570,163 kg collected through the industrial channel, which is almost double the 279,547 kg registered in 2016, and the removal of 81% of the NiCd batteries released to market.

At the same time, we have worked to improve services to our members and at the collection points. This is reflected in the data from our call centre, which took nearly 19,000 calls in 2017, at an average of more than 10 calls per hour, as well as 120 e-mail enquiries per day.

In conclusion, 2017 has been a year of hard work that paid off and of consolidation of our leading position in the sector, which will enable us to take on the projects and challenges of the future.



José Pérez García

President of Ecopilas

These include continually improving our commitment to serving our members, the collection points, the authorities and the public. We also intend to maintain our position as a reference figure for opinion in the major national and international forums for the battery and accumulator market and the media in this country. And, of course, to prevent any decline in the increasing environmental awareness of the Spanish people which is, without doubt, one of the key factors in this extraordinary progress report and the reason why we will continue to collaborate in sport and education into 2018.

Ultimately, these results drive us to continue our work to ensure a better future, with the optimism that comes from knowing we have the trust of each and every link in the recycling chain: producers, distributors, consumers, authorities and managers, in Spain's most responsible and sustainable waste management model, and with a team of people who are as professional as they are committed.



2/
ABOUT US_

ECOPILAS

Ecopilas non-profit foundation was constituted in the year 2000 by the major manufacturers and importers of batteries, with the aim of ensuring the proper environmental management of waste batteries and accumulators throughout Spain.

It is what is defined by current law as an **Extended Producer Responsibility** (ERP) Collection System (for manufacturers, importers and distributors) for the environmental management of waste batteries and accumulators.

With more than 811 member companies, **Ecopilas** is now the largest collection system in the country, in both portable batteries and industrial accumulators and electric vehicle batteries, and is a reference point both in Spain and on an international level as a model for the management of this type of waste.

One of the most important aspects in achieving the foundation's aims is the Ecopilas operation that overall has established Spain's largest portable battery collection network. It currently comprises more than **35,500** collection points and has enabled the correct management of more than 25,000 tonnes of spent batteries and accumulators since the regulations entered into force in 2008.



Ecopilas has established the most extensive collection network for portable batteries and accumulators in Spain, currently with more than 35,500 collection points.

Did you know?

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The Board of Trustees is the foundation's governance body. It is made up of representatives from the battery and accumulator manufacturing companies, manufacturers of electrical and electronic equipment that uses batteries, and the distribution sector.

Its key functions include the approval of the foundation's budgets, modifications to its bylaws and the setting of the tariffs applicable to the different batteries and accumulators released to market by the member companies.



STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ECOPILAS

PRESIDENT

José Pérez García

Ecopilas

SECRETARY

Gonzalo Torralbo

Ecopilas

MEMBERS

Ramón Campos
García

Imprex Europe

Andreu Casasnovas

Sony Europe Limited

Rafael Gutiérrez

Energizer Group España

Andreu Vilà

Fundación Ecotic

Idoia Marquiegui

Ange

Benigno Martínez
González

Saft Baterías

Jaime Corderas

Panasonic



3/
COMPANIES
AND SECTORS_

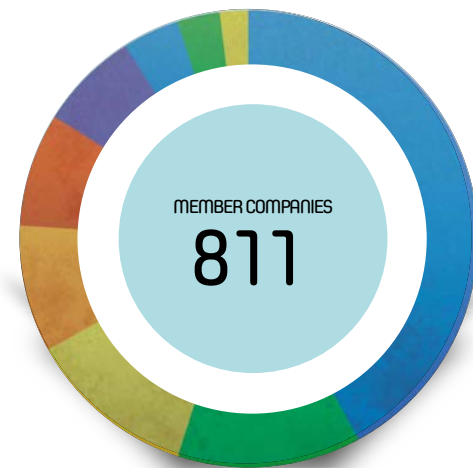
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COMPANIES AND SECTORS



At 31st December 2017, Ecopilas has 811 member companies, a 7% increase on the previous year. Once again, the consumer electronics, telephony and IT sector stands out with 42% of the total member companies. Other representative sectors are producers that manufacture exclusively in the battery and accumulator sector and the electro-medicine sector, which use batteries in a wide range of products and which make up 13% and 12% of the foundation's member companies respectively.

%	SECTORS	nº COMPANIES
42%	CONS. ELECTRONICS / TELEPHONY / COMPUTING	340
13%	BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS	102
12%	ELECTRO-MEDICINE	97
9%	SMALL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES / HARDWARE / DIY / ELECTRICS	77
8%	TOYS / LEISURE / SPORTS	64
7%	PROFESSIONAL / INDUSTRIAL	56
4%	DISTRIBUTION	30
3%	TELECOMS AND AUDIOCOMMUNICATIONS	28
2%	OFFICE IT	17
	TOTAL	811



Did you know?

Ecopilas represents more than 811 companies, manufacturers and importers of batteries and accumulators in very different fields of activity.



4/
2017 FIGURES_

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SUMMARY OF KEY FIGURES

MEMBER
COMPANIES

811

COLLECTION
POINTS

35.538

TOTAL TONNES
COLLECTED

25.988

COLLABORATION
AGREEMENTS

3.285

SELECTIVE
COLLECTION RATIO

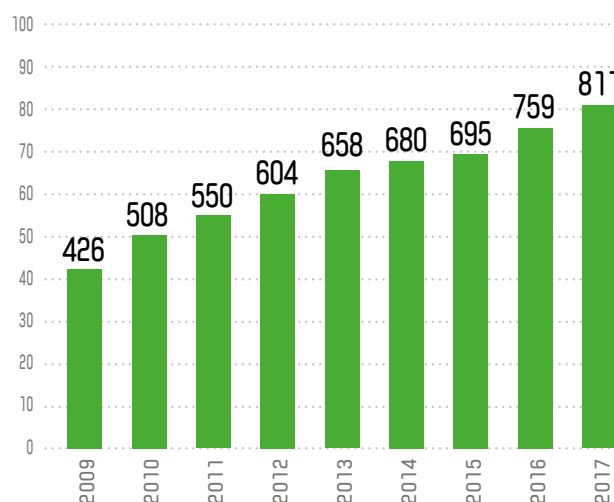
41%

MEMBER COMPANIES



The 7% increase in Ecopilas member companies in 2017 reaffirms the trust placed in our organisation by battery producers and demonstrates our leadership in the sector.

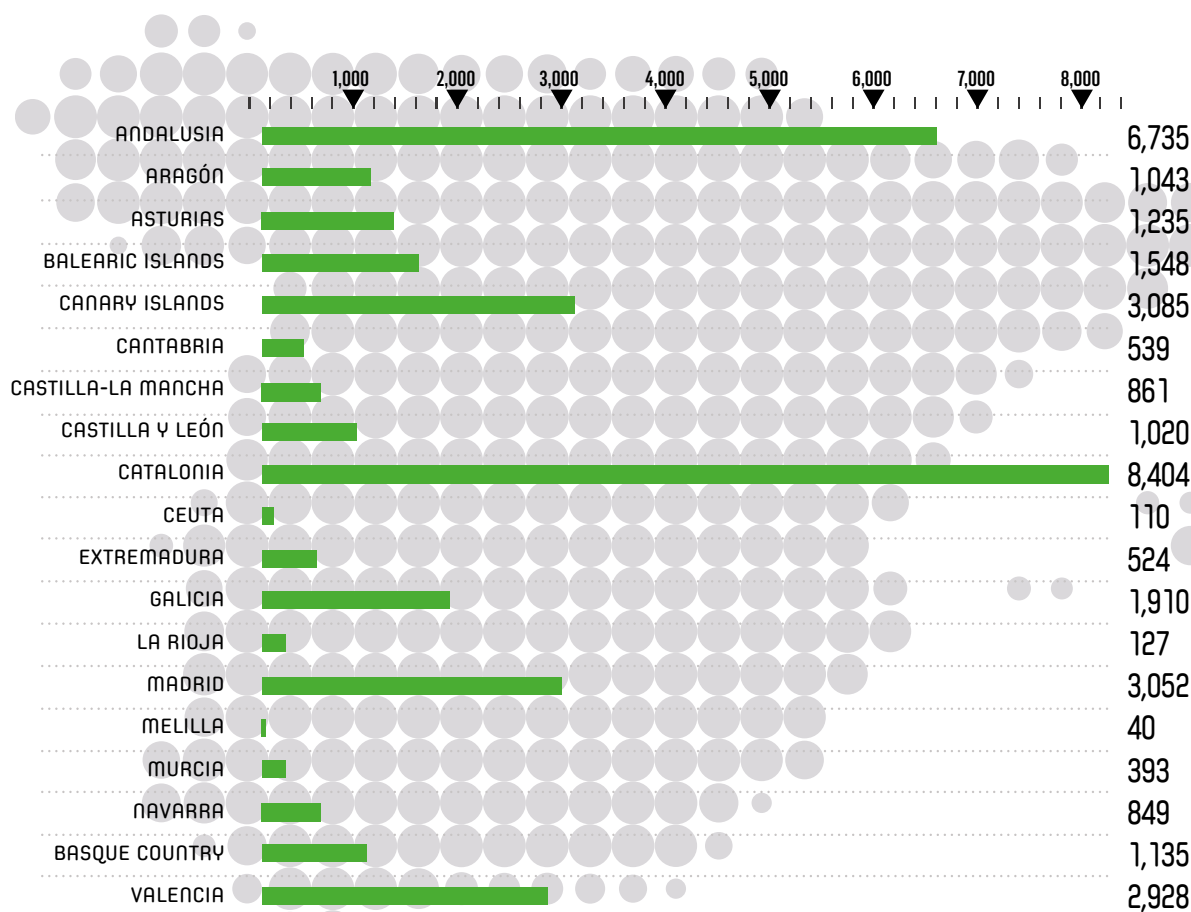
Ecopilas foresees a constant increase in activity over the next few years, given that the market for and types of electrical and electronic devices incorporating batteries have also undergone significant increase.



COLLECTION POINTS BY AUTONOMOUS REGION



Ecopilas' fundamental aim is for its collection network to be accessible and close to the public, and one of the major tools for achieving this is the provision of a collection point search facility on our website www.ecopilas.es, which the public can use to find their nearest public battery drop-off point.



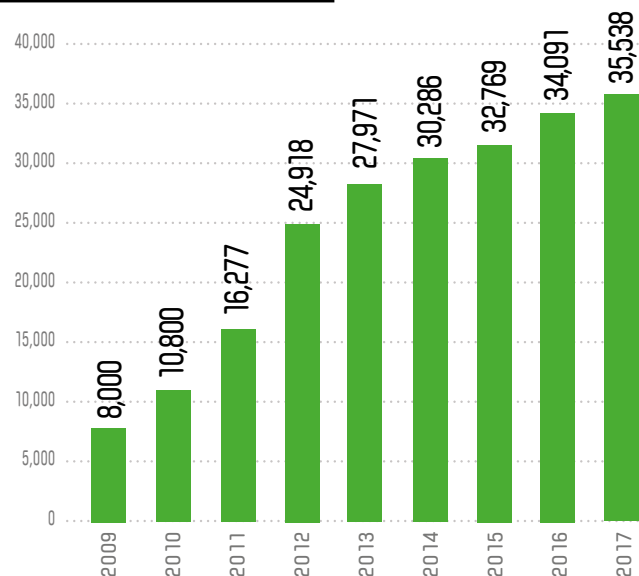
TOTAL COLLECTION POINTS

35,538

EVOLUTION OF COLLECTION POINTS



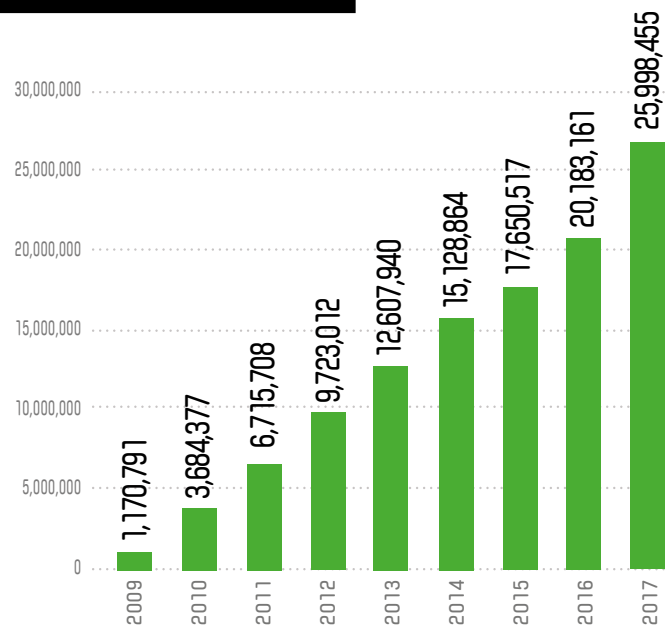
The Ecopilas battery collection network is **the second largest in Europe**, with more than 40,000 containers at the 35,538 collection points that are distributed across the whole country.



CUMULATIVE TOTALS COLLECTED 2008-2017



In 2017, the Ecopilas collection network reached 25,998 tonnes of waste batteries and accumulators collected since our operations began. This achievement is thanks to the constant growth of our collection network and the awareness and collaboration of the public.



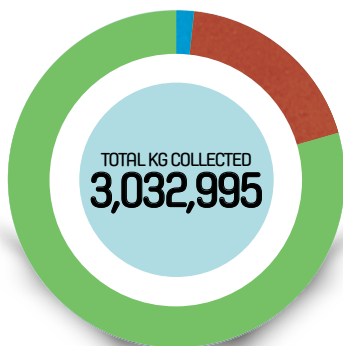
AMOUNTS COLLECTED 2017



We have collected more than 3,000,000 kg.

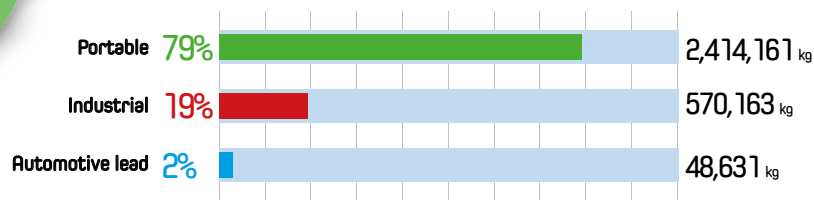
The total collection of used batteries and accumulators through the Ecopilas network in 2017 is 3,032,995 kg.

Of the total batteries and accumulators collected by Ecopilas in 2017, portable batteries make up 79% of the total.



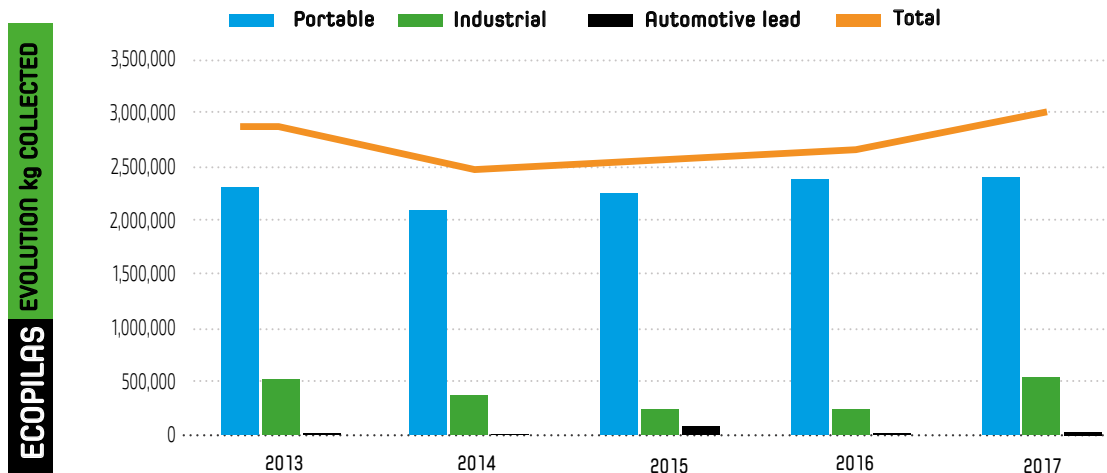
Automotive batteries and accumulators make up 2%, while collections of industrial batteries and accumulators currently make up 19%, in a **significant increase** on 2016's figures in which they made up 11% of the total.

The collection ratio achieved by the Ecopilas container network for portable batteries is 41%.



Did you know?

The collection rate achieved by the Ecopilas portable battery container network was 41% of the total released to market by Ecopilas producers.



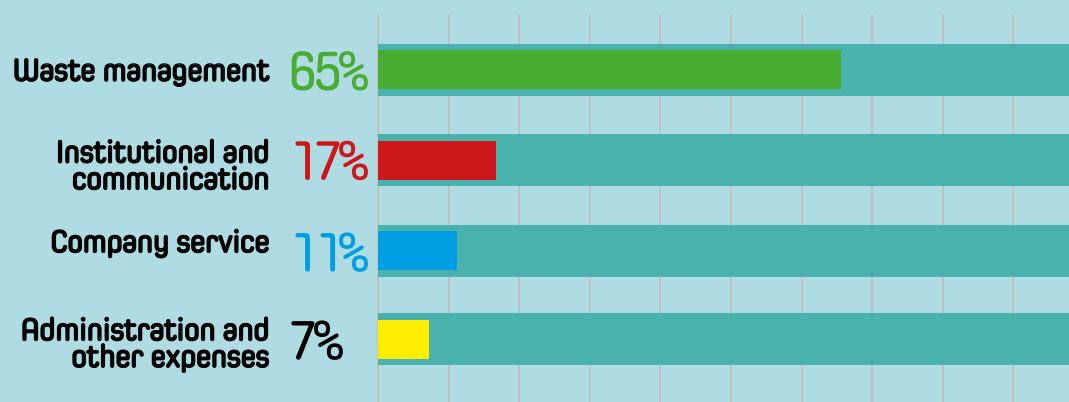
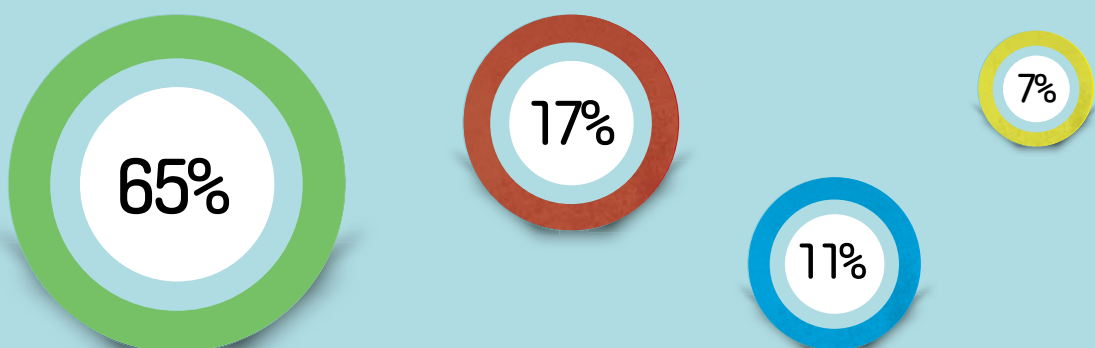
ECOPILAS EVOLUTION kg COLLECTED

DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS ECOPILAS



The management of spent battery and accumulator waste is the largest item in the costs for the Ecopilas foundation in 2017. This item comprises the expense of collecting and recycling batteries in compliance with the requirements of current legislation and using the most efficient recycling plants in Europe for each type of battery and/or accumulator.

Communication expenses occupy a significant place in the cost structure, given that the law in force compels us to allocate a part of our resources to that purpose. In 2017 Ecopilas allocated 17% of the total expenses to communication and public awareness.





5/
ECOPILAS
OPERATIONS_

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ECOPILAS OPERATIONS PERFORMANCE



PORTABLE USE

The primary channel for the collection of portable batteries at Ecopilas is municipal networks with 35%, followed by professional and industrial collections with 34% and distribution networks with 31%.

Ecopilas makes on average more than 25,000 collections of used portable batteries per year, which equates to more than a hundred million portable batteries each year.

Did you know?

Municipal collection: Includes municipal recycling facilities, schools, public centres and municipal collection network containers.

Distribution: Primarily composed of Ecopilas' own network of containers located in retailers, supermarkets and department stores.

Others: Collections of professional and industrial origin.

Did you know?

In 2017, Ecopilas collected 126,055,380 units of portable batteries, which is an average of 345,357 units a day, as a result of the high level of awareness achieved in Spain.



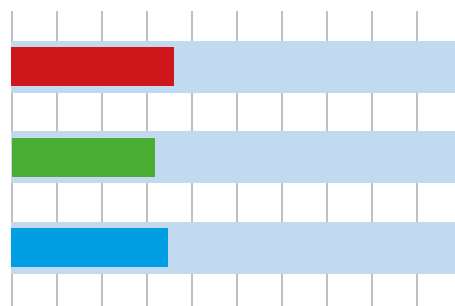
Ecopilas has a wide range of containers which can adapt to all types of batteries and locations, guaranteeing a very high level of collection coverage throughout the country.

The "tube collector" is the most widespread container model in the collection network because it is designed for establishments with intense user traffic. Their visibility and unbeatable location makes them a perfect advert to consumers who want to get rid of their spent batteries.

Municipal 35%

Distribution 31%

Others 34%



832,162 kg

757,292 kg

824,707 kg

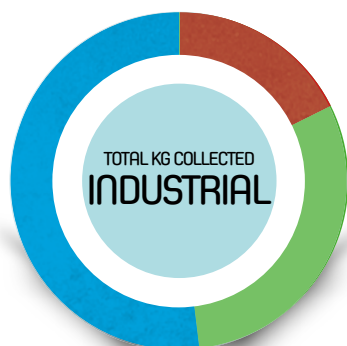


ECOPILAS OPERATIONS PERFORMANCE

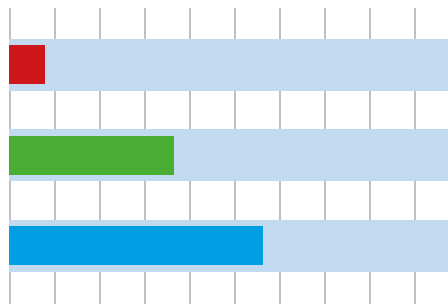
INDUSTRIAL USE

Due to the size and composition of industrial batteries, they are potentially much more dangerous than portable batteries, so they must be collected separately and following strict safety procedures that guarantee their correct final management at a treatment plant.

Ecopilas has created two specific channels for industrial collection, adapted to the needs of manufacturers and the most common technologies in this type of product, also ensuring the complete traceability of the collection and processing of these batteries.



Industrial other technologies 8%



43,782 kg

206,286 kg

320,095 kg

INDUSTRIAL NI-CD CHANNEL

Ni-Cd batteries are commonly used at large industrial facilities in the electrical, rail, oil and gas sectors. They are in high demand for intensive uses due to their reliability and they have a high level of safety requirements. They also need to be closely controlled, due to their potential as an environmental hazard.

ECOPILAS

88%

12%

REST
OF
MARKET

INDUSTRIAL LEAD CHANNEL

Another important operation for industrial-use batteries implemented at Ecopilas is the industrial lead collection channel. This collection channel currently makes up 36% of all the industrial collections Ecopilas carries out, due to the agreements reached with the major recyclers of lead acid batteries in Spain, in order to guarantee the correct treatment of this type of waste.

HYBRID/ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERIES



In 2013, Ecopilas launched an operation to collect and manage end-of-life electric vehicle batteries, which was very well-received among the manufacturers of such vehicles, as it is the basis of a sustainable future for this type of waste.

According to the definition in Royal Decree 106/2008, automobile batteries are only those used for starter, lighting or ignition for vehicles, whatever the technology used.

Did you know?

Did you know?

Electric vehicle batteries which are used for 'vehicle propulsion' are included in the 'industrial use' battery category.

At present, Ecopilas counts among its members more than twenty major manufacturers and importers of electric vehicles which trust us to run the collection operations that these large companies require, on the basis of our experience in waste battery management.





6/
COMMUNICATION
AND EVENTS_

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SOCIAL NETWORKS AND WEBSITE



Throughout 2017, the image of Ecopilas foundation continued to build a strong position among the public, through both the generalist media and specialist publications aimed at specific audiences and professionals.

Social networks were particularly used to reach the youngest groups, sports fans and environmental influencers.

The @Ecopilas Twitter profile now has nearly 5,000 followers, with an average of 14,000 views per month, and the Facebook fanpage closed 2017 with nearly 2,000 followers.

The activities and events that Ecopilas organises or collaborates with over the year have had a presence on both Instagram and LinkedIn, through Recyclia's general profiles.

With regard to the website, www.ecopilas.es, which is currently being reformed, it received more than 46,000 visits by 37,700 users over the course of 2017.

The most visited pages of the website are 'Our containers', where organisations, schools and companies can share their proposals to collaborate with Ecopilas and request the installation of domestic collectors or professional containers, and the 'Collection map', where everyone can find easily the nearest collection point to their home.

Ecopilas is unquestionably a reference figure for information regarding used battery management in Spain, and the foundation's community work attracts the attention of the media and social networks, due to the ongoing effort we make in promoting and disseminating campaigns and events, both our own and in collaboration with the various authorities, autonomous regions and social and sports bodies.



2017 VUELTA A ESPAÑA CYCLE RACE

In 2017, Ecopilas continued its work to bring battery collection closer to the general public through sports, with an intense campaign in the top-level competitions held in this country. Among them, the Vuelta a España has a special position because it was the first sports event that the foundation began collaboration with in 2011.



As in the previous six editions, Ecopilas set up collections at the start and finish lines of every stage, thus adding to the more than 35,500 containers that are already in operation across Spain. The foundation also acknowledged the most active municipalities among the 40 that hosted the collection campaign. Écija (Seville) and Alcalá la Real (Jaén).

The residents of Écija deposited 300 kg in the containers set up at the start line of the 14th stage of the competition and the people of Alcalá la Real collected 100 kg at the 15th stage of the race.



European Battery Recycling Day

On 9th September, Ecopilas celebrated the European Battery Recycling Day for the third consecutive year in Spain, at the initiative of Eucobat. The foundation brought collection points to the people at the queen stage of the Vuelta a España, between Corvera de Asturias and Alto de L'Angliru. The race winner, Chris Froome from Britain, lent a hand to the initiative by depositing some batteries in a container located at the start line.



OWN CAMPAIGNS

► MALLORCA CYCLE CHALLENGE

For another year, Ecopilas supported the biggest event in the European professional cycling calendar, held in Mallorca from 26th to 29th January. Ecopilas ran an awareness campaign for the public and sponsored the Combativity Award that Ecopilas Secretary, Gonzalo Torralbo, presented to the winner, Alejandro Valverde.



'CHARGE YOUR BATTERIES'

This most recent edition of the competition organised by Ecopilas and the waste management area of Lanzarote Council was a great success, with the participation of 50 pre-school, primary and secondary schools and 2,215.3 kilos of batteries recycled.

The winning schools in this fifth edition of the event were CEIP Capellanía del Yágabo, which once again claimed the top prize with 556 kilos. CEIP Múnique won in the category, 'Most batteries collected per pupil' with 139 kilos of batteries and just 10 pupils. In addition, as part of the campaign, more than 17,000 domestic mini-collectors were distributed among the Lanzarote school community.



► TOGETHER FOR RECYCLING WITH UNICAJA MÁLAGA

In mid-January 2017, Ecopilas ran a new awareness operation among basketball fans in Málaga, in partnership with Unicaja, with whom several promotional activities had been planned. As part of the event, a competition was held and prizes awarded to the people who brought the greatest amounts of batteries to the José María Martín Carpena sports stadium.



► VEJER DE LA FRONTERA SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

'If you recycle your batteries at school... the planet smiles' is the slogan of the awareness and collection campaign that Ecopilas is running in schools in various municipalities across Spain. The latest to join, in 2017, was Vejer de la Frontera. A total of seven schools in the municipality actively participated in the initiative that awards a prize of 500 euros-worth of classroom materials to the school that collects the most batteries over the year.



QUEBRANTAHUESOS ◀

Quebrantahuesos, or 'Bone Breaker', is Spain's biggest public cycling race and, as well as sponsoring it for the first time, Ecopilas also set up a stand and containers for domestic batteries at the start and finish lines in Sabiñánigo (Huesca).



► LUGO COLLECTS GALICIA

Towards the end of 2017, Ecopilas launched this pilot project in Foz, and it is hoped that around thirty more Galician provincial councils will sign up to it over the course of 2018. Over three months, Lugo Collects will travel around the province's main municipalities setting up a touring tent where a team of environment monitors will provide information and raise public awareness of the importance of contributing to battery recycling.



► EXTREMADURA ECOPILAS

Cycling events were among the most successful ones in terms of public participation in 2017, and in particular, the professional mountain biking races in which Extremadura-Ecopilas competed. The team has been sponsored by the Recyclia environmental foundation for the last three seasons.

In 2017, Extremadura-Ecopilas promoted the collection of 1,140 kilos of batteries, a figure three times higher than the 360 kilos achieved in 2016.

It is worth noting that 300 of these 1,140 kilos were collected at the **1st Marcha BTT Por el Corazón de las Villuercas**, which is one of the competitions in which Extremadura-Ecopilas participated. The team's main sponsor is the Government of Extremadura and it has been competing professionally for eight seasons. It has several Spanish champions among its ranks who, in 2017, added to their impressive list of victories.



In 2017, Ecopilas continued to collaborate with the Principality of Asturias, an ideal space for promoting battery recycling through sport due to the wide variety of competitions that the region hosts in its natural surroundings.

► DESCENT OF THE SELLA

As in previous years, Ecopilas took part in the 81st edition of the International Descent of the Sella, setting up an information stand and collection facilities in Arriondas and Ribadesella. Fans who discarded their spent domestic batteries in these containers of August 5th received a gift and, at the end of the campaign, the three people who brought the largest amount of waste batteries were awarded prizes.



► VUELTA A ASTURIAS

As in previous years, Ecopilas sponsored the three-day Vuelta a Asturias cycle race which was celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2017. Cycling fans deposited more than 100 kilos of batteries in the containers set up at the start and finish lines of the three stages of the race that ran from 29th April to 1st May.

In the summer, Ecopilas was also present at another event in Asturias, the 9th Travesera Reino Astur in Nembró, which was held in July with a total of 200 participants.



Since 2015, Ecopilas and Burgos Council have been running the campaign, 'Give your batteries more life', with which they aim to raise public awareness of the importance of recycling batteries through the most highly-anticipated sports competitions in the province: the Cross de Atapuerca and the Vuelta a Burgos.

► VUELTA A BURGOS



There were Ecopilas collection points at the start and finish lines of all five stages of the Vuelta a Burgos' 39th edition, which was held on 1st to 5th August. The locals could drop off their spent domestic batteries and find out information about the benefits of recycling for the environment.

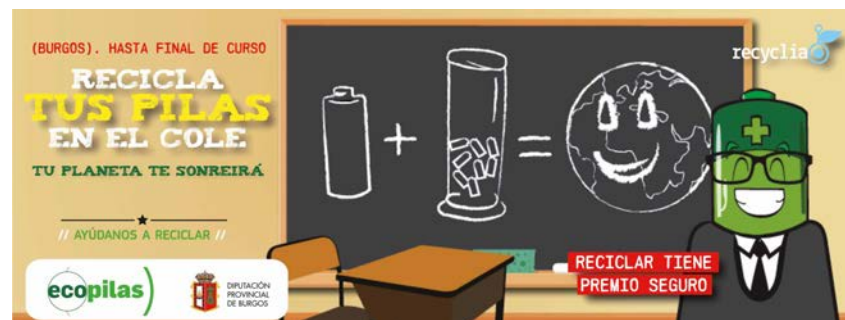


CROSS ATAPUERCA ◀

On 12th November, this cross-country competition took place and Ecopilas organised its famous collection competition, which managed to collect almost 11 kilos of spent batteries.

► BURGOS SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

Also, as part of the collaboration agreement between Ecopilas and Burgos Council, fifty local schools joined the campaign. 'If you recycle your batteries at school... the planet smiles'. Through this campaign, the foundation raises awareness in schools of the importance of recycling spent batteries and accumulators.



JOINT CAMPAIGNS

▶ **APILO XII CATALONIA**

Apilo XII, the battery collection competition held between Catalan schools and led by the Catalan Waste Agency and the collection systems, including Ecopilas, reached a new record in this, its third edition, with 69,323 kilos of batteries and the participation of 902 schools.

Two schools in Lleida province were the winners: Marínada de Vilanova de Bellpuig, which collected the greatest total volume with 2,293 kilos, and Els Set Focs de Bellaguarda, which came first in the amount collected per pupil, with 82.23 kilos for each child.

**BERTO ZAMPAPILAS (VALENCIA)** ◀

Berto Zampapilas is the star character in this campaign that began running in Valencia, driven by Ecopilas, ERP and the General Directorate of Climate Change and Environmental Quality, with the aim of involving primary school pupils in battery collection. The action includes drama activities and children's games, as well as the installation of battery collection buckets in the schools.

► SUSTAINABILITY MONTH AT EL CORTE INGLÉS

Ecopilas joined forces with El Corte Inglés in this initiative, for the purpose of celebrating Sustainability Month in May. With the aim of raising awareness of climate change, supporting fair trade and fostering the circular economy, as well as recycling and sustainable products, El Corte Inglés installed travelling stands at six of its premises which featured Ecopilas collectors to enable consumers to recycle their spent batteries.



► SEPARAR ENS UNEIX (BALEARIC ISLANDS)

Throughout 2017, the Department of the Environment and the Ecopilas, Ecoembes, Ecovidrio and the European Recycling Platform collection systems prepared a new educational and entertaining campaign to teach people to recycle and raise awareness about the impact of waste on climate change.

Under the slogan, 'Separar ens uneix', the initiative includes 50 short audiovisual advertisements that explain how to recycle properly and that offer tips for reducing and reusing waste products. The campaign, which is available to all the regional councils and to companies, also includes an interactive game and a mobile application which will be developed in 2018.



The Department and the ERP and Ecopilas collection systems also carried out an awareness-raising campaign that consisted of running workshops in Balearic schools focusing on prevention and the importance of recycling batteries and accumulators, which ran from January to June, 2017.





7/
SOCIAL
COMMITMENT_

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► REAL MADRID FOUNDATION

In 2017, Ecopilas renewed its support for the eighth time for the socio-educational work of the Real Madrid Foundation, with the aim of raising awareness and educating pupils of the club's multi-sports schools with regard to the environment and the importance of recycling. Ecopilas' support means the continuity of the Multi-Sports School of Football for Inclusion in Segovia and, for the first time, its extension to Seville.

In addition, the battery collection campaign that Ecopilas launched to mark the Real Madrid Foundation's Socio-Sport Schools Tournament, made a new collaboration record with the collection of 1,208 kilos of waste batteries.



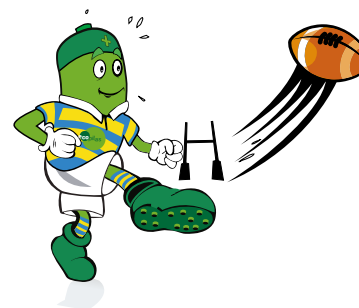
► ADAPTED DESCENT OF THE SELLA

Ecopilas renewed its sponsorship of the Adapted Descent of the Sella, the popular canoeing competition for people with disabilities. As in previous years, the foundation provided information about the environmental benefits of battery recycling, making the most of the enthusiasm for the event that was celebrating its 24th edition with record participation and a total of 135 competitors.



► NATIONAL SCHOOL RUGBY TOURNAMENT 2017

More than 3,000 players from more than 40 clubs and 200 rugby teams from all over Spain took part in the National School Rugby Tournament 2017, organised by the Spanish Rugby Federation and CRC Pozuelo with the support of Pozuelo de Alarcón Council and the Community of Madrid. Ecopilas sponsored the sporting event, and was able to collect more than 150 kilos of batteries.



ECOMAR FOUNDATION ◀

The 64 yacht clubs and sailing schools that participated in Ecopilas and the Ecomar Foundation's 'Charge your batteries and recycle' competition beat their waste collection record with 1,397 kilos: 27% more than in 2016. In 2017, the winning school was the Vela Theresa Zabell de Rota Municipal School (Cádiz) with 836 kilos, which was nearly 62% of the total amount collected.



► **ALMAR FOUNDATION RACE**

For three years, we have collaborated with the Charity Night Race organised by the Almar Foundation in Boadilla del Monte, Madrid, supporting all the participants and setting up an igloo in the town where fans and neighbours can drop off their spent batteries.

The Almar Foundation is a non-profit organisation created in February 2011 to work for health, support and social integration. It aims to be the reference centre for Friedreich's ataxia and other degenerative ataxias.



► **CUDILLERO HARBOUR CLEAN-UP**

At the end of October, a group of volunteers brought together by Ensidesa Underwater Activities Group (GEAS) met in Cudillero (Asturias) to clean up the harbour seabed.

Ecopilas attended this event, together with other lovers of the Asturias sea, including the managers of the mini-recycling points who set up our igloo there to bring spent battery collection even closer to the clean-up participants.

The Great National Seabed Clean-Up is an initiative by the Marine Guards Network and its participants include dozens of diving schools and clubs across Spain and others from across the Atlantic.



◀ **ASSOCIATION ARGADINI**



Recyclia and its foundations, Ecofímica and Ecopilas, have collaborated over recent years with the Argadini Association, whose purpose is attending to people at risk of exclusion for physical or psychological reasons. In 2017, several members of the Association took an active part in the 3rd Recyclia Environment Awards, helping us welcome attendees and present awards.





8/
NOTICIAS
NEWS_

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As in previous years, Ecopilas took part in various events held in partnership with the WEEE Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Collection Systems that form part of their administration body, RECYCLIA.

► 3RD RECYCLIA ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

On 20th December, the Ritz Hotel in Madrid hosted the 3rd Recyclia Environment Awards, an annual ceremony whereby Recyclia recognises the work carried out by individuals, organisations and the media in the area of sustainability and the environment.

As part of the event presented by Luis Pérez Bermejo, President of Recyclia, special recognition was awarded to Daniel Calleja, Director General for the Environment of the European Commission, for his work to promote the 'Europe 2020 Strategy' on the Circular Economy.

The Nature Protection Service of the Civil Guard (SEPRONA) and Lanzarote Town Council were awarded prizes in the category of 'Greatest Support by a Public or Private Body for Promoting Recycling'.

Recyclia recognises this body's work in vigilance, especially in the face of a recent increase in environmental crime such as illegal trafficking of waste. The award was collected by Jesús Gálvez Pantoja, lieutenant colonel of operations at SEPRONA headquarters, and José Manuel Vivas, captain and head of the Central Unit for the Environment (UCOMA). Domingo Cejas, officer of the Lanzarote Town Council Waste Management Area, collected the award that acknowledged the body's work in awareness raising and training in sustainable practices.

In the category, 'Best Performance by a Media Organisation to Promote Recycling', the 3rd Recyclia Award went to EFEverde, the environmental information platform of the EFE Agency, a leader in environmental journalism in Spain, for its specialisation, rigour, positive approach and international coverage.

Finally, Eva González, environment reporter at Europa Press, was awarded in the category, 'Best Performance by a Journalist to Promote Recycling' for her extensive track record in environmental journalism and her reporting on current affairs in the recycling sector.





[EL CICLO NATURAL DE LOS APARATOS ELECTRÓNICOS Y DE LAS PILAS]

► ECOENCUENTRO 2017

'The collection model for managing end-of-life electronic devices is essential in order to finance the selective collection and recycling of this type of waste without the need for greater public spending,' affirmed Daniel Calleja, Director General for the Environment of the European Commission in his inaugural talk at the EcoEncuentro 2017.

This seventh edition of Recyclia's annual meeting, held on 14th November in Madrid, brought together more than 200 professionals, including national and European public authority representatives, electrical appliance and battery manufacturers, and waste, sales distribution and media managers, to analyse the challenges the electronic recycling sector faces in 2018 in the framework of the Circular Economy strategy.

Similarly to Calleja, José Pérez, CEO of Recyclia, championed the effectiveness of the model that has facilitated the collection of 230,000 tonnes since its outset, via more than 50,000 recycling points nationwide.



EcoEncuentro 2017 also served as a platform for Spain's key political groups to debate the Circular Economy and waste management. The event's participants included Loreto Cascales (PP), Ricardo García (PSOE), José Luis Martínez (Ciudadanos) and Juan Antonio López de Uralde (Podemos), who concurred in affirming the need to improve coordination between the various agents in the sector.

Finally, the public authorities, manufacturers and legal experts discussed the obligation to collect and recycle a series of professional electronic devices that have been exempt until now, including electrical motors and pumps, circuit breakers, electronic instrumentation devices and measuring and control equipment.





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INTERNATIONAL_

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► ICBR 2017: 22ND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR BATTERY RECYCLING AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF EUCOBAT

As every year, in September the General Assembly of Eucobat was held, coinciding with the International Congress for Battery Recycling (ICBR) that took place in Lisbon on 20th and 21st September.

Part of the General Assembly of Eucobat was an overview of the strategy that the Association will take in the review process for the Directive on waste batteries and accumulators that is in its public consultation phase at the start of that process.

The association is busy finalising the Position Paper on the issues that most concern the collection systems,

such as, improving the calculation method for collection targets that the directive proposes, in order that they take into account batteries that are 'available for collection' and not just sales in recent years.

As in previous years, the ICBR focused on the growth and development of the Li-ion battery market, as this is now the most widely-used technology in mobile devices, from consumer electronics to electric vehicles and even products and sectors that are still in development, such as off-grid storage and 'wearables'.



UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES CONSULTANCY ◀

On 18th and 19th May, 2017, Recyclia representatives met in Kiev with producers, managers and officers of the Ukrainian authorities to pass on knowledge and the Spanish experience of creating collection systems for the management and recycling of spent batteries and accumulators and electrical and electronic waste.

Our CEO, José Pérez, at the invitation of the Ukrainian Secretary of State for the Environment, gave a detailed presentation of current European law and operational needs for the organisation of an extended responsibility system, before an audience of more than 60 people.

An intense discussion, lasting over four hours, took place in which Recyclia provided pertinent data so that Ukraine may avoid early mistakes and select the best model in order to reach a consensus with all stakeholders regarding the regulations that will govern the collection, management and recycling of batteries and WEEE, responding to many questions posed by the participants.



THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN COLOMBIA ◀

In recent years, Ecopilas and Recyclia have played an important role in several Latin American countries which have come to them for advice and consultancy in relation to electrical and electronic equipment, lighting and battery recycling: Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Uruguay.

In October 2017, at the invitation of the European Commission, Recyclia and Ecopilas took part in a Meeting on the Circular Economy that took place in the cities of Medellín and Bogotá, Colombia, in which more than 60 European companies participated, along with several institutions such as Ecoembes, Erp and Ecopilas, and a range of international experts. Daniel Calleja, Director General for the Environment of the European Commission, drove the meeting, together with the Trade Commissioner for the EU in Colombia, Christophe Saurenbach.

The aim of these meetings was to foster exchange between public and private sectors, and between Spaniards and Colombians, about their experiences and challenges in relation to the Circular Economy, a concept that aims to change the classic economic paradigm of production, use and disposal to one in which products are recycled, reconsidered and reused intelligently.



▶ MABIC 17 METAL AIR BATTERIES INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Ecopilas, in its ongoing commitment to improving energy storage and the applications that such improvements entail for the environment, participated in the Metal Air Batteries International Congress (MaBIC 17).

From 4th to 7th June, Ecopilas attended the third edition of MaBIC which took place in Huesca, in the Walqa technology park, which was the ideal place for such an event to be held as it coincided with World Environment Day and it was here in Huesca that the first large battery and accumulator factory (Tudor) in Spain was set up.





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