

“Green Lead and the recycling industry”
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by
Mick Roche

Because of the toxic characteristics of lead, the Lead Industry is potentially faced with a significant constriction of its future markets if it fails to satisfy regulators and communities that its products will be dealt with in ways offering the highest level of safety.

To address the issue of changing and improving practices associated with lead, the Green Lead Project is being created as a Product Stewardship initiative of the *Lead industry*.

Green Lead™ is the vision of mining, processing, transporting, treating, manufacturing, storing, using and recycling lead – with zero harm from lead exposure to people and the environment.

Green Lead is the identification of impacts associated with lead, the establishment of standards to minimise these impacts and certification of organisations and eventually lead products that achieve these standards. It will focus initially on lead used in batteries. This paper discusses the concepts and issues associated with Green Lead and its certification. It also describes the proposed development process for creating and implementing the scheme globally.

Achieving the vision of Green Lead will require collaboration and cooperation between different stakeholders, companies, and industry leaders throughout the product's life cycle .

Green Lead recognises that one or a few companies in the 'chain', alone cannot meet all of their environmental objectives, or produce a truly 'green' product, without the cooperation and input of the other companies that they interact with.

Green Lead is not intended to be a replacement for the current sustainable development initiatives that members of the lead industry may be involved in, including either the International Council on Mining & Metals (ICMM) sustainable development charter and principles or the Australian Minerals Industry “Code of Environmental Conduct”.

Green Lead as product stewardship is aimed at contributing to broader and better sustainable development outcomes for the lead industry.

Quarantining the effects of lead from people and the environment is essential to securing the “community licence to operate” for the lead life cycle around the world.