

### Energising the Future: Battery Recycling Market Outlook and Opportunities

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The global battery recycling industry is growing rapidly, presenting further opportunities for supply





### Passenger EV adoption is forecast to drive an eightfold increase in Liion battery demand from the automotive sector by 2050

Plug-in electric vehicle sales forecast by country

Li-ion battery by end-use segment demand forecast





EVs ESS Portable electronics Power devices Motive products

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## Governments and OEMs are aligning with decarbonisation strategies, driving EV battery demand growth



Fit for 55 – 55% emissions reduction by 2030

100% zero-emission vehicles by 2035

40% EV penetration by 2030

Continuation of new energy vehicle subsidies to 2027



#### 50% EV penetration by 2030



67% EV penetration by 2032 under EPA standards

US\$7,500 tax credit under the Inflation Reduction Act until 2032





Additional battery sector demand is expected to drive long-term deficits in markets for lithium, cobalt, nickel and graphite demand



Battery raw material balances (base case)



### Realisation of overreliance on China has kickstarted a drive to localise a battery supply chain in the West





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### Recycling can supplement traditional supply of raw materials and components, given this is the bottleneck to supply ramp-up

#### **Project lead times**



#### Years after announcement

Surging battery production will provide near-term feedstock through scrap, while end-of-life feedstock will come later



**Battery material and recycling flows** 

#### **Recycling feedstock forecast**





Three main Li-ion battery recycling methods – pyrometallurgy is well developed but hydrometallurgy has surged on high lithium prices



From 2030 recycling is expected to represent a large share of BRM supply to the battery sector, particularly for cobalt and nickel

Secondary supply of raw materials from recycled batteries



Source: Wood Mackenzie Q2 2023

## Even with high forecast recycling rates, BRM supply is expected to fall short of overall demand

#### Supply and demand for key battery metals in 2035



## Demand for recycled material expected to grow strongly due to policy, traceability, ESG and carbon reduction trends

#### **Recycled Content Regulations**



EU minimum recycled content requirements from 2030: 85% lead, 16% cobalt, 6% lithium and nickel.



BRMs recycled in North America eligible for the US IRA EV tax credit.



In China OEMs are responsible for recycling batteries they sell

#### **Carbon footprint reduction**



EU carbon footprint label on batteries from 2025 and carbon footprint limit from 2027



Recycling lowers carbon footprint



#### Source Traceability



EU battery digital passports from 2027, BRM sources must be ethically verified



Sourcing verification methods expected



Local recycling eases proof of provenance

#### **ESG Factors**



Focus on cobalt recycling due to artisanal mining



Recycled nickel to combat deforestation



Recycled lithium to reduce water consumption



## Lead-acid batteries (LABs) are the most recycled consumer product globally, current LABs use 80% recycled lead



#### Lead supply by smelter type

Primary Secondary

- Trade restrictions for EOL LABs have fostered localised recycling industries
- In Australia secondary lead smelting occurs in every state except WA (though not all from batteries)
- Low lead values in the 90s resulted in cases of poor management of EOL LABs
  - However the recycling industry is now technologically advanced, efficient and clean, a leader in circular economy manufacturing
- Primary and secondary lead is used interchangeably for most applications
  - Yet to see market differentiation between recycled and primary lead products
  - However traceability certification and recycled product premiums could occur in the future



## 88% of lead is currently used in batteries, BRM shortages are expected to drive continued demand for LABs for use in EVs



#### Lead demand by end-use

- Supply shortages and high BRM input prices for Li-ion batteries mean that LABs will continue to be in demand
  - The existing ICE vehicle fleet will continue to require replacement LABs
  - EVs currently use LABs for low-voltage energy requirements such as running the vehicle's computer and radio – requiring ~50% of the lead used in an ICE vehicle
  - LABs have a place in the growing ESS market, given their proven technology and lower cost for weightagnostic applications
- Mature EOL LAB collection networks are being leveraged for Li-ion battery acquisition
  - LAB recyclers are already moving into Li-ion battery recycling



Australia will need to utilise its primary BRM and LAB recycling expertise and innovate to overcome scale challenges



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# Battery Raw Materials Research Suite

#### Lithium Research Suite

#### Market Service

- 2050 forecast horizon
- Near-term outlooks to 2032
- 10+ first-use & end-use segments

#### Cost Service

- 150 assets costed
- 100+ companies covered
- 10 years forecast horizon
- · Industry cost curves & analysis on multiple metrics & structures



### **Nickel Research Suite**

#### Market Service

- 2050+ forecast horizon
- Nickel sulphate analysis
- · Short-term outlooks

#### Cost Service

- 175 assets costed
- 120 companies covered
- Operating costs from 1992 to 2040
- Quarterly report on 175 projects & operations
- Industry cost curves & analysis on multiple metrics and structures



#### **Cobalt Research Suite** Market Service

- 2050 forecast horizon
- Near-term outlooks to 2032
- · 30+ first-use and end-use segments

#### **Cost Service**

- 60+assets costed
- 40+ companies covered
- 2040 forecast horizon
- · Industry cost curves & analysis on multiple metrics & structures



#### **Graphite Research Suite**

#### Market Service

- 2050 forecast horizon
- Near-term outlooks to 2032
- 10+ market segments
- 40+ countries covered
- Prices for 10+ graphite products including flake concentrates & battery-grades intermediates



### **Electric Vehicle & Battery Supply Chain Service**



The most comprehensive industry analysis of the supply chain for electric vehicles and battery materials, designed to help you:

- Understand future supply trends of existing mines, processing and refining facilities, and future projects.
- Predict battery and metals demand.
- Analyse trade flows and patterns for intermediate and finished products.
- Evaluate new growth opportunities in the battery materials sector.
- Leverage our price forecast for benchmark and 'battery grade' metals.





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