



Battery Industry Position Paper Button / Coin Battery Marking and Packaging

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American, Canadian, European, Japanese and Latin American battery manufacturers, which comprise the Quintilateral Group, have voluntarily moved to child resistant packaging, packaging marking, strengthened warnings and conducted outreach for the lithium coin battery types that can cause injury or even fatalities when ingested. Industry members routinely participate in and develop global safety standards for all battery and many battery-using products and support protective packaging, warning and marking as appropriate.

Miniature or button and coin cell batteries play a critical role in powering today's ultra-portable electronic devices. Examples include hearing aids, medical devices, wearable device technologies, lighting products, remote key fobs, remote controls and many, many more products. In addition, nearly all electronic devices today include button/coin battery backups installed in their circuitry to prevent loss of stored information.

With decades of statistic on ingestions of batteries through funding of the National Capital Poison Control Center, the battery industry position on marking, warning copy and child resistant packaging for button and coin cell batteries is shown below. The position is for all chemistries of consumer button or coin cells and is based on the diameter of the battery, not the chemistry.



Diameter	Caution Icon	Child Resistant Packaging	Warning Language
≥20 mm	Shall be on package and shall be permanently marked on the battery per standard guidelines being developed.	Packaging shall be child resistant as determined through testing defined in the Poison Packaging Protection Act of the United States.	Warning text shall appear as detailed in the industry guidelines ¹ being developed.
< 20 but ≥16 mm	The icon shall on be on packaging per industry guidelines being developed. Permanent marking of the icon on the battery itself is voluntary.	Packaging shall be child resistant as determined through testing defined in the Poison Prevention Packaging Act of the United States.	Warning text shall appear as detailed in the industry guidelines being developed.
< 16 mm	Use of the icon on packaging and the battery is voluntary.	The need for child resistant packaging is voluntary.	Warning text shall appear as detailed in the industry guidelines being developed.

- Guidelines are currently part of revision efforts within the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) TC35. The details will also be added to other US ANSI battery safety standards after the international work is complete.