

News Release

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SANYO Adds “eneloop lite” to “eneloop” Rechargeable Battery Family

*Industry-Leading! Rechargeable up to 2,000 times^{*1}
Ready to Use even after 3 Years of Storage^{*2}*

Munich, July 6, 2010 – SANYO Component Europe GmbH (SANYO) is pleased to announce “eneloop lite”, the latest addition to the “eneloop” rechargeable battery product line. The new “eneloop lite” rechargeable battery is ideal for low-to-medium power consumption devices, such as dect phones and remote controls.

These days people are getting more interested in rechargeable batteries. At the same time, dry cell users still desire a “more attractive price” and “shorter charging time.” Now, to meet these demands, SANYO is adding the new “eneloop lite” in sizes mignon (AA) and micro (AAA) as entry models for rechargeable batteries to its product lineup. “eneloop lite” is coming pre-charged to ensure dry-cell equivalent user-friendliness by being usable immediately out of the box. Its low self-discharge properties allow the batteries to be ready to use even after 3 years of storage. “eneloop lite” is a rechargeable battery like “eneloop” but with a smaller capacity, which leads to a faster charging. It is attractively priced and carries the industry leading number of cycles, being rechargeable up to 2,000 times^{*1}. Just as the “eneloop,” the batteries get pre-charged at the Japanese factory with electric power, which is generated from solar energy^{*3}. In Europe “eneloop lite” will get released at the beginning of September and will be available in sizes mignon and micro. Both “eneloop lite” types are having a nominal voltage of 1,2V. The mignon “eneloop lite” has a rating capacity of 1000 mAh, the micro “eneloop lite” does have a rating capacity of 600 mAh.

Main Features

1. Dry-cell equivalent convenience through “eneloop’s” original self-discharge control technology: “usable immediately after purchase” and “ready to use even after 3 years of storage^{*2}”

As for “eneloop,” SANYO’s industry-leading “self-discharge control technology” is used for “eneloop lite.” The batteries are pre-charged at the factory, offering dry-cell equivalent user-friendliness by “being usable immediately after purchase” without initial charging. A fully-charged battery is capable of holding 75%^{*2} of its initial capacity even after 3 years of storage, which is convenient for users who use batteries only every once in a while.

2. Industry-leading rechargeable battery, rechargeable “up to 2,000 times^{*1}”

Battery characteristics, such as “capacity” and “number of times rechargeable,” are a trade-off. “eneloop lite” is based on the longer life technology of “eneloop”. By adjusting the material constitution and making the battery capacity smaller than that of the “eneloop,” SANYO realized the “eneloop lite,” an industry-leading rechargeable battery reusable “approximately 2,000 times^{*1}.” Compared to disposable dry cells, the “eneloop lite” is highly economical and environmentally friendly. In addition, it eliminates the hassle of going out to get new ones when the stock of dry cells run out and helps to reduce the waste of batteries.

3. User-friendly rechargeable battery – lightweight; attractive price; and shorter recharging time

Through reviewing the battery design and reducing the amount of materials used, attractive prices have been realized. The reduced capacity also leads to a faster charging. Compared to the charging time of a “eneloop” battery size mignon, that of a “eneloop lite” size mignon is only half. Further, the “eneloop lite” has less weight than the “eneloop.” For example: a “eneloop lite” size mignon weighs approximately 19g which is about 30%*⁴ less than a “eneloop” size mignon (approx. 27g). Lighter batteries are especially convenient for devices that use multiple batteries and when many batteries need to be carried. With those specifications “eneloop lite” is very attractive for first-time rechargeable battery users.

Other Features

- Outer covering label prevents damage from repeated mounting/dismounting.
- Can be recharged anytime without worrying about the memory effect.

About SANYO

SANYO Electric Co., Ltd. is a leading company for energy and environment, providing solutions for energy, environment and lifestyle applications. SANYO Component Europe GmbH (a fully incorporated subsidiary of SANYO Electric Co. Ltd.) is a supplier of highly developed environmental and energy solutions. The company offers an extensive range of batteries, rechargeable batteries, and photovoltaic modules as well as high-quality and innovative electronic components and semiconductors. The headquarters of SANYO Component Europe is located in Munich with subsidiaries in the UK and France.

You can find more information about SANYO Component Europe at <http://www.eneloop.info/>, <http://www.sanyo-component.com>

You can find more information about SANYO at: <http://www.sanyo.com/>.

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*1 General estimate based on the JIS C8708 2007 (7.4.1.1) testing conditions (The number of times a battery can be recharged changes according to the use conditions and equipment used.)

*2 A fully-charged battery will retain 75% of its initial capacity after 3 years of storage at room temperature. (Size AA: 200mA discharge current, 1.0V/cell discharge cutoff voltage)

*3 Through the Green Power Certification System in Japan, the amount of energy equivalent to that used for factory pre-charging is covered by “Green Power” generated from solar energy.

*4 Comparison with SANYO’s AA-size eneloop (HR-3UTGA).