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Global Drone Battery Recycling Supply, Demand and Key Producers, 2026-2032

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Abstracts

The global Drone Battery Recycling market size is expected to reach $ 21680 million by 2032, rising at a market growth of 93.7% CAGR during the forecast period (2026-2032).

The global drone battery recycling market has a potential value of approximately $2 billion in 2025, but due to a recycling rate of only about 15%, the actual market size is only $220 million, a difference of nearly 10 times. However, with the continued growth of the drone battery market (approximately $8.1 billion in 2024) and the gradual emergence of the 2-3 year retirement cycle of industrial drone batteries, the recycling rate will further improve, and the market size is expected to reach $3 billion by 2030, corresponding to a CAGR of 96%.Drone battery recycling refers to the systematic process of collecting, evaluating, classifying, and reprocessing end-of-life or degraded batteries used in drones—primarily high-rate lithium-based batteries such as lithium polymer (LiPo)—with the objective of maximizing residual value and recovering critical materials. The process typically consists of three core stages: (1) collection and logistics, where dispersed batteries are aggregated through OEM programs, distribution channels, or third-party recyclers; (2) diagnostics and grading, where battery health (e.g., state of health, SOH) is assessed using battery management system (BMS) data or dedicated testing to determine the appropriate pathway (second-life utilization or material recovery); and (3) downstream processing, where viable batteries are repurposed for secondary applications, while end-of-life units are dismantled and processed via metallurgical methods to recover valuable materials such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel. Compared to EV battery recycling, drone battery recycling is characterized by smaller unit size, higher discharge rates, faster degradation, and lack of standardization, which increases complexity in collection efficiency, second-life feasibility, and large-scale processing.

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Current processing capacity largely relies on the broader lithium-ion battery recycling infrastructure, which exceeds one million tons globally, while dedicated facilities for drone batteries remain limited and are typically handled through integrated processing streams.

The industry remains at an early stage, characterized by small scale, fragmentation, and lack of standardization. From a classification perspective, it can be divided—based on value realization pathways—into second-life utilization, material recycling, and energy recovery, with material recycling currently dominating and second-life utilization constrained by the fast degradation of high-rate batteries but holding future potential. In terms of applications, second-life batteries are mainly used in energy storage, low-power devices, and backup systems, while recycled materials feed into battery manufacturing, electric vehicles, and the broader critical minerals supply chain.

Upstream includes battery manufacturers and drone OEMs, midstream consists of collection, testing, and recycling players, and downstream connects to material producers and energy applications, with value currently concentrated in material recovery. Overall, drone battery recycling represents a high-growth, early-stage segment that is expected to evolve from a sub-sector of lithium battery recycling into a standalone market, driven by industrial drone adoption, OEM-led closed-loop systems, and regulatory support.

A significant gap exists between the theoretical and actual market size in drone battery recycling, primarily due to low collection rates and an underdeveloped recycling infrastructure. Although this disparity is expected to narrow with the development of OEM-led closed-loop systems, regulatory frameworks, and new business models,

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structural factors such as small battery size and decentralized ownership will likely sustain a persistent gap over the long term.

The impact of solid-state batteries on the drone battery recycling industry is expected to be limited in the near term. Due to the inherent lag in recycling markets, batteries entering the recycling stream between 2026 and 2030 will still be predominantly conventional lithium-ion and lithium polymer types, with solid-state batteries accounting for only a small share. As such, their influence on market size and processing technologies will remain marginal. Over the longer term (post-2030), the gradual commercialization of solid-state batteries may introduce structural changes in material composition, recycling processes, and value recovery, but a meaningful industry transformation is unlikely before 2035.

This report studies the global Drone Battery Recycling demand, key companies, and key regions.

This report is a detailed and comprehensive analysis of the world market for Drone Battery Recycling, and provides market size (US$ million) and Year-over-Year (YoY) growth, considering 2025 as the base year. This report explores demand trends and competition, as well as details the characteristics of Drone Battery Recycling that contribute to its increasing demand across many markets.

Highlights and key features of the study
Global Drone Battery Recycling total market, 2021-2032, (USD Million)
Global Drone Battery Recycling total market by region & country, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million)
U.S. VS China: Drone Battery Recycling total market, key domestic companies, and share, (USD Million)
Global Drone Battery Recycling revenue by player, revenue and market share 2021-2026, (USD Million)
Global Drone Battery Recycling total market by Type, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million)
Global Drone Battery Recycling total market by Application, CAGR, 2021-2032, (USD Million)

This report profiles major players in the global Drone Battery Recycling market based on the following parameters - company overview, revenue, gross margin, product portfolio, geographical presence, and key developments. Key companies covered as a part of this study include GEM, Brunp, Ganfeng Lithium, Seen Recycle, Zhejiang New Era Zhongneng, ATRenew, DJI, Grepow, Ascend Elements, SungEel HiTech, etc.

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This report also provides key insights about market drivers, restraints, opportunities, new product launches or approvals.

Stakeholders would have ease in decision-making through various strategy matrices used in analyzing the world Drone Battery Recycling market

Detailed Segmentation:

Each section contains quantitative market data including market by value (US$ Millions), by player, by regions, by Type, and by Application. Data is given for the years 2021-2032 by year with 2025 as the base year, 2026 as the estimate year, and 2027-2032 as the forecast year.

Global Drone Battery Recycling Market, By Region:

United States

China

Europe

Japan

South Korea

ASEAN

India

Rest of World

Global Drone Battery Recycling Market, Segmentation by Type:

OEM Closed-loop

Third-party Recycling

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Channel-based Collection

Distributed Recycling

Global Drone Battery Recycling Market, Segmentation by Field:

Consumer Drones

IndustDrial Drones

Global Drone Battery Recycling Market, Segmentation by Application:

Battery Materials

EV / ESS

Metals Supply

IoT Devices

Companies Profiled:

GEM

Brunp

Ganfeng Lithium

Seen Recycle

Zhejiang New Era Zhongneng

ATRenew

DJI

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Grepow

Ascend Elements

SungEel HiTech

Redwood Materials

Key Questions Answered

1. How big is the global Drone Battery Recycling market?
2. What is the demand of the global Drone Battery Recycling market?
3. What is the year over year growth of the global Drone Battery Recycling market?
4. What is the total value of the global Drone Battery Recycling market?
5. Who are the Major Players in the global Drone Battery Recycling market?
6. What are the growth factors driving the market demand?

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