HP starts a global safety recall and replacement program for the batteries in HP, Compaq, ProBook, Envy, Presario and Pavilion laptops sold from March 2013 to August 2015.



Also covered by the recall are laptop batteries sent as replacements or sold as accessories/spares during the period.

The reason behind the recall? As the company puts it, "these batteries have the potential to overheat, posing a fire and burn hazard to customers." The recall and replacement program covers all batteries, whatever the age, "at no cost" to customers.

The list of laptops posing a potential fire hazard is a long one-- even if HP points out just 1% of all HP laptops sold during the flagged timeframe have an affected battery. To make checking whether one's laptop is affected easier HP offers a free Battery Program Validation Utility for such purposes. Customers can also go through a full list of affected laptops at the Recall and Replacement Program website.

Should one have a faulty battery in their machine HP says it should be removed from the laptop, with laptops used via external power only until a replacement arrives. Faulty batteries need to be sent directly to HP, since HP service partners are not participating in the program.

Go HP Notebook Computer Battery Safety Recall and Replacement Program