

Traction Battery Care & Maintenance

Prevention is better than cure

Make sure at all times that your battery is “in good health”, Visible defects and deficiencies must be remedied immediately to avoid subsequent high repair costs which could easily have been avoided. A defective cable will result in unnecessarily high current. Dirty, damp cell covers will result in current leak and will drain current from the battery. Acid overflow will reduce the battery’s capacity and break down the battery case. Too little liquid in the cells will damage the battery. All of the above can be avoided by spending a few minutes a day on the battery.

If you check your battery and remedy any faults in time, you will prolong its life.

In addition to the battery care mentioned above, there are a few things that must be done every day and every week.

Daily

Morning

- When you start work



Check that the charger has finished charging the battery.



Evening

- When you stop work

Drive the truck close enough to the charger that the battery connector and the charger connector can easily reach each other



Switch off the charger or press the pause button



Turn the ignition key and switch off the current



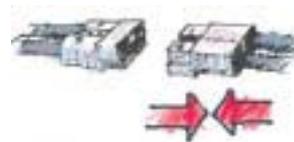
Disconnect the battery connector and the charger connector



Open the battery cover so that gasses can escape during charging

Do not pull the cables

Wipe the battery and close the battery cover



Connect the charger to the battery connector

Daily contd.

Morning

- When you start work



Connect the battery connector to the truck and drive off



Evening

- When you stop work

Switch on the charger if it has a switch

Check the charger starts before leaving it.



The red light must be on. Some chargers have a yellow light

Weekly



Maintenance

Check (every Friday for instance) that the acid level is above the lead plates and separators before charging the battery. **If the acid level is too low, top it up with water so that the acid just covers the plates but is no higher.** If you charge a battery with an acid level that is too high, the acid will overflow down into the battery case. If this happens too frequently, the battery will require acid readjustment. Over time a battery charged with exposed plates will gradually decay.

Then check the acid level mid-week after charging when the battery is idle. If the acid level is too low, top it up with water until the acid is 1-2 centimetres above the plates. **If you pour too much water into the cells, they will “boil over” the next time the battery is charged.**

Check the cell connections, cable terminals and connectors. Any defects must be remedied immediately, Ensure that all cell plugs are closed. The wash the battery with a brush and hot water and wipe it dry. Use Protective goggles.

NB!

Top up with water to the correct level after charging has finished