



SAHL AKKUMULATORFABRIK A/S

GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF YOUR BATTERY

Better performance and longer service life

Storage

- By prolonged storage the battery must be disconnected from the electrical system. Even very low power consumption (connected clocks, radios, alarms etc.) will discharge and in time cause damage to the battery.
- See to it that the battery is fully charged when set to storage.
- Always store cool (frost free) and dry, as the self-discharge is reduced by half for every 10th degree the temperature is lowered.
- All batteries have a certain self-discharge, which appears by the repose voltage decreasing. If the voltage decreases to below 12,4 V, the battery must be recharged. Batteries, which are not kept fully charged, risk sulfating and losing capacity.
- Keep in mind that a discharged battery can suffer frost damages by normal winter temperatures.

Maintenance and performance

- Batteries must be solidly fastened and be well ventilated.
- Batteries perform at their best at room temperatures. Heat and cold affect the function of the battery.
- Keep terminals free from filth and contaminants.
- Keep batteries clean and dry. Damp and filth may affect currents (leakage current) on the top and increase the self-discharge.
- For batteries with lids to open the electrolyte (acid) must be checked on a regular basis, and if needed, adjusted with distilled water.
- Batteries should not be deep-discharged. Repeated deep-discharges will reduce the service life of the batteries considerably.
- The resting tension of the batteries gives an indication about the state of charge: (After charging the batteries must rest for a 24 hours, so that the tension is stabilized before measuring the resting tension).

A fully charged battery has a resting tension of	approx. 12,7 V
A half charged battery has a resting tension of	approx. 12,2 V
A discharged battery has a resting tension of	approx. 11,7 V or below
For 6V the half value is used.	

Charging

- The self-discharge in modern batteries is low, but in spite of this batteries in rest will always slowly lose their charge. This may be compensated either by the battery being charged at certain intervals (approx. every 3rd month) or with an ongoing maintenance charging.
- It is important to choose a battery charger suited for the battery to be charged.
- A modern battery charger is characterised by having:
 - Temperature compensation (the charger adjusts the charger voltage according to temperature).
 - Charger profile in accordance with the battery technology AGM/GEL or standard batteries (batteries with liquid acid).
 - Charging adjusted to the size of the battery (Ah capacity)