

## How to care for your new Deep Cycle Golf Cart Batteries

- New batteries should **always** be given a full charge before use.
- New batteries will need to be charged and discharged (cycled) several times before they reach their full capacity. It is important usage is limited during this time.
- Battery cables must be in good condition and all connections must be tight. Regular checking is very important.
- Battery caps must be kept on and tight while the vehicle is in operation and when the batteries are being charged. Check the O ring seal over each cell.
- Batteries must be kept clean at all times. Especially where cables are connected and around caps.
- Water should be added to batteries after charging unless the plates are exposed before charging. If the plates are exposed before charging just enough water should be added to cover the plates. After charging check again and if necessary add a little more water to be sure the plates are covered by approx 3-4 cm.
- The water added to batteries must be distilled or treated so they do not have more than 200T.D.S. (total dissolved solids) It is very important that there is no iron contamination in the water.
- To get the longest life before replacement it is important not to discharge batteries more than 50%.
- Do not charge batteries when the surrounding temperature is over 48 c
- Batteries periodically require an "Equalization" Charge. This is a slow low current charge that helps keep the cells in balance. When using an automatic charger you should allow a full normal charge. Disconnect for a short time and reconnect.
- When the time comes to replace some batteries they must be replaced with batteries of the same age and use level as the remaining batteries. In practice this usually means replacing all batteries with new ones.
- Batteries should be periodically tested. A battery load tester or hydrometer should be used.
- Batteries should be brought up to full charge at the earliest opportunity. Avoid continuously operating batteries in a partially charged condition. This will shorten their life and reduce their capacity.

Inactivity can be extremely harmful to all lead acid batteries. If seasonal use is anticipated, we recommend the following:

- a. Completely charge the battery before storing.*
- b. Remove all electrical connections from the battery, including series/parallel connectors.*
- c. Store the battery in as cool a place as possible. However, do not store in a location which will consistently be below 0c. Batteries will discharge when stored, the lower the temperature the lower the self discharge.*
- d. When not in use, boost every two months.*

### **What is the cycle life of your batteries?**

Any claims of lasting longer are based on selective data, as a marketing gimmick (i.e. selecting the best of one and worst of the other) and is misleading. Battery life, like anything else, cannot be precisely pre-determined, any more than the life of your car or humans.