TOOLBOX TALKS

BATTERY CARE AND TIPS

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.

BATTERY CARE AND TIPS

☑ **STORAGE:**

- Store batteries in a cool, dry area
- Batteries should be kept in an upright position
- Keep batteries from freezing for maximum life
- Voltage drops with long storage periods, if a battery drops below 12.4 always charge it before use
- Always test batteries before installation, and charge if necessary
- Consider charging the battery before use if it has been idle for more than a month

☑ **BATTERY STACKING AND STOCK ROTATION:**

- Never stack batteries directly on top of each other unless they are in cartons or on pallets protected by corrugated packaging
- Do not stack batteries more than two high
- Always rotate stock using first in, first out methodology (FIFO)
- New batteries will measure 12.6 volts or more

☑ **BATTERY CHARGING TIPS*:**

- Always follow safety precautions and wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Always read the manufacturer's instructions
- Turn charger off and disconnect battery prior to hook-up
- A battery that has not begun to accept minimum charging current within 15 minutes at the highest charger setting should be replaced
- Never attempt to charge a frozen battery, allow it to warm first

*Refer to the attached battery care and maintenance chart for further instruction. Chart applies to all lead-acid batteries.

Discussion Date:

Employee Participants:

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There are a lot of moving parts on the jobsite. To find a safety topic relevant to your operation, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.

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