

# ***Fleet Maintenance Training Series***

## **Battery Checking and Charging**

Course length – 1 day

Prerequisites – None

Typical class size – 6 to 8 individuals

Instructors – one



## **Course Summary**

According to the American Trucking Association (ATA), nearly half of the breakdowns that take place during the winter months can be attributed to cranking and charging problems. What's even worse is that almost 75% of battery and cranking failures on the road are doomed to occur over and over again. Battery and cranking problems are some of the most commonly misunderstood and misdiagnosed problems on heavy trucks. In some cases, batteries are replaced multiple times within a one or two week period until the root cause is determined and repaired. These batteries have years of life left in them, but sadly they are almost never recovered, recharged and placed back into service. This can add up to thousands of dollars in unnecessary cost - not to mention multiple breakdowns for the same unit. Enter Fleet Group's Battery Checking and Charging Course.

The Battery Checking and Charging Course is designed to provide hands on practical instruction which includes both lecture (theory) and practical (hands-on) training formats at your location. This 1 day class is designed to give your technicians the training they need to properly check charge and maintain the batteries that are removed from service at your shop. This allows them to identify problems in your shop before they become problems for you and your customers on the road. The course covers instruction on the operation and care of the new (or existing) battery charging and testing equipment at the maintenance facilities and the safety concerns of handling a battery during removal, testing, charging, storage and installation. The Battery Checking and Charging Course should be an integral part of any good Preventive Maintenance Program.

## **Course Topics**

### **Items to be covered during the training:**

- Introduction – Why C&C Program?
- Formal Battery C&C Policy
- Introduction to Proper Tools
- Properly Equipped Battery C&C Area
- Safety Procedures
- Checking State of Charge
- Understanding Battery Date Codes
- Battery Removal and Cleaning
- Determining Battery Disposition
- Charging Batteries
- Testing Batteries
- Labeling Batteries
- Disposing of Batteries

## **Course Deliverables**

Following the course, participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of all battery precautions and safety rules
- Properly and safely remove and clean batteries
- Properly inspect batteries to determine disposition (Serviceable or Not Serviceable)
- Properly charge batteries
- Properly test charged batteries
- Properly determine battery disposition (Good or Bad)
- Properly label batteries
- Properly dispose of bad batteries
- Properly maintain used battery inventory
- Maintain testing and charging equipment
- Maintain charging station
- Identify and properly use required tools

## **Client Responsibilities**

In order for this training to be effective, the client will need to provide the basic tools, and an appropriate shop and training environment:

### **Shop Needs:**

- Clean and uncluttered area in the shop with adequate lighting to be utilized during the practical portion of the training.
- A cache of 12 to 16 used batteries (based on number of participants)
- At least 4 – 6 new batteries (based on number of participants)

### **Tools:**

- AutoMeter BusPro 600s Battery Charger (or equivalent)
- AutoMeter BAV 2000 Battery Tester (or equivalent)
- AC Delco ST1201 Charging Post Adapters (Qty 32)
- TruckLite 97025 Electrical Connection Brush Kit (or equivalent)
- Company required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Rolling cart suitable to transport batteries from charging to testing areas
- Access to basic hand tools
- Wheel chocks
- Flash lights
- Creepers
- Rags

### **Class Room:**

Adequate classroom space free of distractions to include:

- Presentation projector (notify Fleet Group in advance if we need to provide the projector)
- Projector screen
- Dry erase board w/markers of various colors (flip chart if dry erase board is not available)
- Seating and table for all participants and trainer
- Catered lunch for each day
- The names of each participant at least 6 days prior to the training session