

# VLR SAFETY TAILGATE TALK

January 2017

*Subject: Battery Care Tips*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (garage, mm, etc...):

**Instructions:**

Safety Coordinators & Supervisors should use this Tailgate Talk as a guide for discussion during their safety meetings. The primary purpose of the safety meetings is to give crews the opportunity to discuss any safety related concerns they may have.

Once the meeting has concluded, the Presenter should have each employee sign this form and include their Employee ID# in the spaces below.

TGT Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Employee
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## Storage

- Store batteries in a cool, dry place.
- Batteries should be kept in an upright position.
- Keep batteries from freezing for maximum life.

## Discharge Rates Based on Temperature

- 3% per month at 70° Fahrenheit
- 6% per month at 90° Fahrenheit
- Add 3% for every month at 20° Fahrenheit higher temperature

## 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.
- 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.

## **Battery Charging Tips**

- Always follow safety precautions and wear proper eye protection.
- 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.
- If violent gassing or spewing of liquid occurs or the case feels hot, temporarily reduce or halt charging.
- Never attempt to charge a frozen battery, allow it to warm up first.

VTTC  
SAFETY