



BE CERTAIN.

INNOVATION STARTS WITH THE ORIGINAL

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To:	Direct Account Headquarters and Branches General Trade Accounts BESA Accounts	Category:	Product
From:	John Munsell, Product Development	Line(s):	07

Subject: Correct Testing of New, Never-Installed Batteries

Description

Conductance is a measurement of a battery's current producing capability. This technology can help identify batteries that have reduced performance after being in service.

During the formation manufacturing process, each plate is brought to a state of 80–90% completion. This means that the electrolyte has permeated all but the center point of each plate. Incomplete formation is intentionally done to enhance shelf life as well as the battery life for the consumer.

As a result, conductance-type battery testers should never be used to determine state of health, state of charge, or Cold Cranking Amps (CCA) rating of a new, never-installed battery. New batteries will develop their full performance capability only after a period of cycling after installation.

If an installer wishes to check the condition of a battery prior to installation, ACDelco recommends only measuring open circuit voltage (OCV) using a high quality Digital Volt Ohm Meter (DVOM). An OCV of 12.4V is adequate for starting most vehicles under most conditions.

All batteries will self-discharge and deteriorate over time, therefore, making proper rotation of inventory essential along with proper charging processes. Conductance testing of new batteries should never be used to determine the warrantable condition.