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Safety and Maintenance Guidelines For Industrial Batteries and Chargers

- ✓ Check electrolyte level at least once per week. The proper electrolyte level is approximately 1/4" over the separator protector. Always water the battery after it has charged. Overfilling causes tray corrosion and over time can dilute electrolyte strength. Underfilling exposes the plates and leads to shortened battery life.
- ✓ Do not opportunity charge. This will shorten battery life and run time.
- ✓ Batteries should only be charged after being discharged to 80% of capacity.
- ✓ Insure that charger comes on properly by checking for adequate start rate.
- ✓ Never unplug a battery while it is charging. It could arc and explode because batteries release explosive hydrogen gas while charging. Always turn off the charger before unplugging the battery.
- ✓ Check for missing or damaged vent caps, terminal covers, and intercell connector covers. Check daily for damaged connectors and bare wire on both the battery and charger.
- ✓ Always wear a face shield, apron, and gloves when handling or maintaining batteries. Sulfuric acid can burn skin and eyes. If acid splashes in eyes flush for 15 minutes.
- ✓ Keep truck compartment and battery cover open during charge to allow for dispersal of hydrogen gas. Always keep vent caps in place during charge.
- ✓ Batteries should be used for 8 hours, charged for 8 hours, and allowed to cool for 8 hours.

