



# HAWKER®

## Headlines

### Fall 2011 edition

### Quick Tips!

**Self-discharge degrades available battery power.** Have you ever just laid on the couch all day...watching TV? Were you tired by bedtime? Uh, why...you didn't do anything??? True, but your body was still using/losing energy. Guess what...your battery just sitting there on the shelf or in your parked vehicle is losing energy too!!! It's called battery self-discharge. In fact, the average flooded-cell 6TMF battery loses about 3 percent of its capacity per month! Meanwhile, your Hawker® Armasafe Plus™ 6TAGM is losing less than 1 percent...but, in both cases...they are still losing energy. So, to keep your batteries in top condition, **try these tips:** (1) for batteries in vehicles, ensure each vehicle is operated continuously for at least 1 hour per month or (2) connect the batteries to a charger until they are topped off...and for batteries just sitting on the shelf in your battery room, we recommend connecting them to a trickle/float charger until they're needed. Following this tip will help you to reduce plate sulfation (see below) and keep your batteries in peak condition.

### Do you know:

**that Hawker® makes an alternative to the spiral-wound Group 34 battery that's used in many GenSets (TQGs) as well as in the M-ATV?** It's called the MIL PC 1500 and it packs a minimum of 880 CCAs and 135 minutes of reserve capacity...that's **80 more CCAs** and **35 more minutes** of reserve capacity than the red or blue top spiral-wound batteries...and **130 more CCAs** than the yellow top!



Interested in another source of supply for your Group 34 needs...as well as the power and quality you expect from a Hawker® AGM battery? Good news...while we're working to get an NSN assigned, the battery can still be ordered by its part number: 0785-2025

### Answer to question from last issue:

**Why does lead-acid battery plates sulfate?** Basically, as a lead-acid battery uses/loses its stored energy, a chemical reaction takes place between the lead plates and the sulfuric acid in the electrolyte. During this reaction, it creates lead sulfate crystals on the plates...and the longer the battery remains discharged, the worse the condition becomes...until finally, the plates are completely coated in lead sulfate (which insulates the plates). Plate sulfation increases internal resistance, thereby reducing a batteries ability to accept/or release a charge. This "kills" batteries. **Here's what you can do about it:** routinely test your batteries and keep them fully charged...you'll extend your batteries life and reduce man-hours spent replacing them!

### Training:

**Want to know a secret?** Some active, guard, and reserve units get full life out of their batteries!  
**Here's why...**Because they received free diagnostic, preventive maintenance, and corrective maintenance training from a Hawker® FSR.  
**Want to get that free training?** Contact us...and we'll schedule it together.

**Questions?** Check out our website at: [www.hawkerplus.com](http://www.hawkerplus.com) or call us at 877-485-1472

*Next Issue:  
Why you shouldn't  
mix different  
batteries in the same  
battery pack.*



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