

SERVICE BULLETIN

BATTERIES & BATTERY MANAGEMENT

The most common customer service request and most common question asked is *“how long can I get out of my batteries?”*

This is a can of worm’s question as there are so many variables such as:

- Supplied battery type and amp rating.
- Ambient temp / fridge temp.
- Battery charging system - dual vehicle battery or standalone charge at home.
- How often you open the fridge door.
- How much gear is in the fridge.

An example is - An Evakool 75ltr fridge running at 5 deg-C on a 32 deg-C day can draw approx. 2-4 amps an hour if you don't open the door and it's not in direct sunlight. A more common average would be working on the fridge using up to 4-6-amps an hour, as the unit will have a duty cycle most likely it would be slightly less if used as a fridge and more if used as a freezer.

If you did not charge the battery and minimised open time you may get 24-48 hours out of your battery/s before the voltage drops below 12V.

When is my battery flat?

If a battery drops below 11.2 volts technically it is flat. Most reputable brand fridges will cut out when the battery reaches this point. If your batteries reach this point it will need an immediate **CHARGE**.

How long should I charge my battery for?

A deep cycle or AGM battery is not like a smart phone. If you are charging through a smart charger (Projecta PC1600 or similar) at 4 amps – this is 4 amps per hour, it can take up to 50 hours to charge (200ah/4amps per hour = 50 hours).

But my lights still work

LED lights give no indication that the batteries are going flat. LED lights will work as low as 2 volts but allowing your battery to get this low can cause permanent damage to the battery and may not be covered under warranty.

Solar & Batteries

The solar panels we can supply are rated to 160w. They normally have an input rate of 10amps (use calculation above). This is calculated in 100% sunlight i.e. middle of the day & no clouds. Solar panels are good for trickle charging your batteries and power feeding things like fridges during the day to reduce the draw on your battery power.

Flat Batteries and warranty

Please note, just like a car battery, if you run your batteries flat you can cause irreparable damage to the batteries and battery system. In most cases a damaged/flat battery is not covered under warranty. Please always maintain a charge in your batteries above 11.5volts. This can be done by using a good quality battery charger at home or when the van is not being used.

For further information, please call 07 32 555 662