



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Replacement Batteries for all Hybrid, ISS (Start-Stop) and factory-installed AGM Batteries

In recent years we have seen a dramatic increase in the range and number of vehicles on Australian roads equipped with “Micro-Hybrid” or “Idle Stop-Start” engines and related fuel-saving systems.

In addition several European prestige brands have been installing AGM (Absorbed Glass Mat) batteries into an ever-increasing range of models to better cope with advanced electrical systems and high electrical accessory loads.

When replacing the battery in any modern vehicle (post 2003 European and post 2010 all) it is important to check the construction type of the original battery to determine if an EFB (Enhanced Flooded Battery) or AGM type battery is required, to ensure reliable operation and acceptable battery life.

Replacing an EFB battery with a standard or MF starting battery will dramatically shorten the battery life and will void the warranty.

EFB type batteries can be replaced with AGM type batteries however it is not recommended to replace AGM type batteries with EFB type batteries.

Industry testing has shown a conventional battery may lose between 7% and 16% of its capacity after just one week in an ISS – equipped car.

When replacing original AGM batteries in American and European cars the replacement battery should ideally also be of AGM construction.

Sealed Calcium maintenance-free batteries can be retro-fitted to these cars in some circumstances, provided the car is not equipped with any type of hybrid or ISS system, and provided the CCA rating and AH capacity ratings are the same or similar.

For safety reasons AGM batteries fitted in the passenger compartment (under seat) must be replaced only with AGM.

Some examples of vehicles fitted with ISS systems as of 2014:

- **Mazda all SkyACTIV models Mazda 3 Mazda 6, Mazda CX5 2012-on**
- **Subaru Impreza ISS 2012-on Subaru XV ISS 2012-on**
- **Toyota Prius**
- **Honda Odyssey ISS, Honda City 2014-on**
- **Nissan Dualis Diesel 2013-on Nissan Duke 2013-on**
- **Audi – various models 2010-on**
- **BMW – various models 2013-on**
- **Mercedes Benz – various models 2010-on**
- **Lexus – various models 2007 - on**

If unsure please contact R&J Batteries for advice before battery installation.

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