BATTERIES (LEAD-ACID)

Military Vehicles

POSSIBLE CONTAMINANTS OF CONCERN

The cells of a lead-acid battery contain lead and lead dioxide and an acidic electrolyte solution of sulfuric acid. The electrolyte is a strong corrosive agent. Batteries may also vent explosive hydrogen gas. Caution should be used when using jumper cables to avoid sparks near the battery.

CHARACTERIZATION

Lead acid batteries are hazardous due to their lead content and are managed as universal waste. It is illegal to dispose of a lead acid battery in a landfill. Do not place in refuse container.

HANDLING PROCEDURES

Step 1 Obtain materials from PPOC Battey Section to palletized batteries properly.

Step 2 Battery electrolyte should not be drained from the battery. Batteries should be stacked no more than two tiers high on a pallet with cushion board between and the terminals are taped to prevent short circuiting.

Step 3 New and used batteries must be stored in areas protected from the weather elements to avoid any ground or storm water discharge issues. They should not be stored in metal lockers.

NOTE: PPOC will accept a battery without caps or a battery with a cracked case. Damaged batteries must be overpacked prior to turn-in (i.e., exterior case cracked). Over packs can be obtained through the PPOC by calling **PPOC HazWaste Pick Up.** Do not store damaged batteries at the unit. Label the overpack container "Leaking Lead Acid Battery"; place the battery inside the overpack and ensure the lid is tightly closed.

Batteries emit hydrogen gas and could leak acid. Secondary containment and proper ventilation is required.

NOTE: If batteries spill on the ground or if there is a question about clean up and reporting, contact **Spill/Storage Tank Program** for guidance.

See Batteries (Lead Acid) Military for guidance on other batteries, protocol sheet A-15.

Battery acid spill containment

GENERAL INFORMATION

For additional information contact PPOC Battery Program manager. **Call ahead for a turn in appointment (270)798-9765**