# Industrial Battery Comparison



Saft

# Safety Precautions

- MSDS Sheets identify chemical hazards
- Use double insulated tools
  - No smoking or open flames
  - Avoid arcing near the battery
  - Wear personal protective equipment
  - Avoid wearing metal objects
  - Ensure battery area ventilation is operable
  - Neutralize static buildup















# SAFT DEVELOPS AND MANUFACTURES ADVANCED-TECHNOLOGY BATTERY SOLUTIONS

Diversified base of industries 35% 32% North Broad portfolio of technologies Europe America (Ni-based, Primary Lithium and Lithium-ion) 33% Asia, MEA, Leadership positions on 75-80% of Latam revenue base (Industrial Standby, Metering, Aviation, Rail, Defense, Satellites)

\* SAFT is part of TOTAL new division, "Gas, Renewables & Power", since September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

100	\$921M*	9.7%	+4,100	+3,000
years of history	revenue FY 2017	invested in R&D	people	customers







# Leading Oil & Gas companies rely on Saft

#### International & National Oil and Gas Companies









# **BATTERY BASICS**

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# **Battery Composition**

#### A battery is an electrochemical energy storage device.





# **Stationary Battery Cell Components**

**Substrate** 

Bones of the battery. Physical structure inside the battery that houses the active materials. (May or may not be made of the same material as the active material)



# **Active Material**

The muscles of the battery. The material that does all the work storing and releasing energy.

# **Stationary Battery Cell Components**



# Electrolyte

The life blood of the battery. Carries energy between the plates. (May help with energy storage in some battery types)



**Case (Jar)** Skin of the battery. Keeps all the important bits inside!!



# **Stationary Battery Assembly**



Cells in series increase voltage Cells in parallel increase capacity



# **Battery Failure modes**





# **Battery Terms**



#### Energy = Power x Time

• Example: Continuous current loads for many hours.





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# The Early Days of Batteries

#### **Gaston Plante**

- French Physicist
- Invented the first rechargeable (secondary) lead-acid battery in 1859

#### Waldemar Jungner

- Swedish Chemist
- Invented the first rechargeable nickel-cadmium battery in 1899



# **SAFT History**

- Founded in 1918 by Victor Herald
- Originally Société des Accumulateurs Fixes et de Traction (S.A.F.T.)
- Roughly translates to "Stationary and Traction Battery Company"



# **Battery Basics - History**

#### **Traditional Battery Improvements...**

- 1970's: the development of valve regulated lead-acid batteries
- 1980's: Saft introduces "ultra low" maintenance nickel-cadmium batteries
- 2010: Saft introduces maintenance-free\* nickel-cadmium batteries
  - The term maintenance-free means the battery does not require water during it's entire service life (20+ years under Saft's recommended conditions)

1888

1899





1901

1932



1836

1859

1868

# **Battery Basics - History**

#### The future of batteries – Lithium-ion

- 1976: Exxon researcher Whittingham described lithium-ion concept in Science publication entitled "Electrical Energy Storage and Intercalation Chemistry"
- 1991: Sony introduced the first Li-ion cell (18650 format)
- 1992: Saft introduced its commercially available Li-ion cell







# 3 CHEMISTRIES & CONSTRUCTION



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# **Lead-Acid Basics**

- Plates
  - Substrate: Pure lead or lead alloy grid
  - Positive Active Material: Lead oxide
  - Negative Active Material: Sponge lead
- Electrolyte Sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ) 1.205 1.275 Specific Gravity and participates in the electrochemical storage reaction
- PH = ~2
- Nominal volts per cell ~2.0
- Inter-cell connection links usually lead plated copper
- Different Grid Alloys Selenium, Calcium, Antimony
- Failure mode: OPEN CIRCUIT
- Total Reaction

 $- + Pb_{(metal)} + PbO_2 + 2H_2SO_4 = \frac{Discharge}{Charge} 2PbSO_4 + 2H_2O$ 







# Flooded Lead-Acid Pasted Plate

## **Basic Specification**

- Jars Styrene AcryloNitrile (SAN) or PolyCarbonate (PC),
- Flame Retardant ABS Lid-opaque, PC Jar-clear
- Construction: Plante, Manchester, Faure (Pasted Plate), Tubular
- Design Life 20 years
- Service life 12 15 yrs, depending on environment, design, application







# Valve Regulated Lead-Acid Batteries

## VRLA or Recombination Technology

- Immobilized electrolyte
  - Absorbed (AGM)
    - Fiberglass mat saturated with acid
  - Gel Cells
    - Silicon gel saturated with sulfuric acid
    - Gas path from positive to negative
- Positive internal pressure
- Recombination process is highly efficient due to low electrolyte content
  - Charging energy is converted to heat
  - Thermal management is critical
- Grid corrosion results in hydrogen evolution
- Typically have FR (Flame Retardant) jars





# VRLA (continued)

#### **Advantages**

- No water additions
- High energy density
- Low initial cost

#### **Disadvantages**

- Multiple failure modes
  - Dry out
  - Thermal runaway
  - Negative strap corrosion
  - Sudden death... OPEN CIRCUIT
- Highly susceptible to ripple current
- Shorter life than vented cells
- Design Life:1-11 years
- Service Life: typically 3 7 years

#### **Typical Applications**

Telecommunications, UPS, Emergency Lighting







## **VRLA Battery Failure Modes: Summary**



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# **Nickel-Cadmium Basics**

- Plates
  - Substrate: Nickel-plated Steel
  - Positive Active Material: Nickel hydroxide
  - Negative Active Material: Cadmium
- Electrolyte = Potassium Hydroxide (KOH)
- PH = ~11
- Electrolyte is alkaline and **does not corrode the plates** or participate in the electrochemical reaction. It is actually a **preservative** of the plates.
- Nominal volts per cell ~1.2
- Failure Mode: SHORT CIRCUIT
- Different plate types: Pocket, Fiber, Sintered, Plastic Bonded (PBE)
- Total Reaction -







# **Nickel Cadmium Features**

### Advantages

- Most rugged battery type. All steel plate construction
- Resistant to: Electrical abuse, overcharging / over-discharging
- Physical abuse, extreme temperatures, shock & vibration
- Withstand temperature excursions from -40°C to +70°C
- Fast recharge with no adverse effects
- Impervious to ripple (a VRLA killer)
- Low maintenance
- Low total cost of ownership
- Design and service Life 25+ years

Disadvantages

- High initial cost compared with lead-acid
- Installed footprint can be larger than lead acid in some applications

# Nickel Cadmium Pocket Plate (traditional design)





Protective cover\_\_\_

- to prevent external short-circuits
- in line with EN 50272-2 (safety) with IP2 level

Plate group bus Connects the plate tabs with the terminal post. Plate tabs and terminal post are projectionwelded to the plate group bus.

Separating grids Separate the plates and insulate the plate frames from each other. The grids allow free circulation of electrolyte between the plates.

Cell container\_\_\_\_\_ Material: translucent polypropylene.

The cells are welded together to form rugged blocks of 1-6 cells depending on the cell size and type. Flame-arresting vents Material: polypropylene.

Plate tab Spot-welded both to the plate side-frames and to the upper edge of the pocket plate.

Plate frame Seals the plate pockets and serves as a current collector.

Plate Horizontal pockets of double-perforated steel strips.

Saft cells fully comply and exceed the requirements of the IEC 60623 standard.



# Maintenance Free (Recombinant) NiCd

#### Maintenance-free L and M types

- Qualified IEC 62259 for Ni-Cd with gas recombination (over 97%)
- Electrolyte is still liquid and abundant inside.

#### High tech maintenance-free concept

- Maintenance-free
  - No requirement to add any water throughout service life under recommended operations
  - Decrease the operational cost and reduce the maintenance manpower
  - Can be stored filled and charged up to 2 years









# High Performance NiCad Batteries (S/PBE)

## Sintered plate (Positive Plate) Plastic Bonded Electrode (Negative Plate)

#### Highest Performance NiCad

- High Energy Density
- High Power
- High charge acceptance at low voltage
- Ideal for Engine Starting and Switchgear Applications
- Low Maintenance
- 10 13 Year topping up interval
- Single Cell / Compact Design





# Sintered Plate Technology

#### Perforated & nickel plated steel strip



Electrochemical impregnation with active material



Nickel powder is sintered onto the strip to form a highly porous and conductive structure.





# Perforated & nickel plated steel strip



Pasting and drying of active material embedded into organic binder









# **Technology Physical Comparison**

# What to look for:

#### Technologies being compared

• Nickel-Cadmium Vs Flooded Lead-Acid (VLA)

#### **Sizing Results**

#### **Comparison parameters**

- Footprint
- Volume
- Total weight (battery + racking)
- Price



# **Sizing Parameters**

Paramete	rs
Min. Voltage:	105 Vdc
Max. Voltage:	140 Vdc
Nom. Voltage:	125 Vdc
Design Margin:	1.15
Aging Factor:	1.25
Temperature (max):	30 °C
Temperature (min):	15 °C

Load Profile						
<u>Step</u>	Load	<b>Duration</b>				
1:	5 A	8hr				
2:	300 A	1 min*				

\*For Nickel-Cadmium the minimum performance step is 1 sec Vs. 1 min for Lead-Acid (Coup de Fouet). The "tripping load" can occur in under one second bursts.



# Sizing Results

Nickel-Cadmium		Vented Lead-Acid		
Nominal Capacity:	130 Ah	Nominal Capacity:	350Ah	
Total WxDxH	59" x 28" x 68"	Total WxDxH	83" x 28" x 71"	
Total Weight:	~1,652 lbs	Total Weight:	~4,461 lbs	
Installed Energy:	16.3 kWh	Installed Energy:	43.8 kWh	



# **Footprint Comparison**

Ni-Cd	VLA		

Technology	W (in)	D (in)	Area (in²)
Ni-Cd	59	28	1,652
VLA	83	28	2,324



# **Volume Comparison**

Technology	W (in)	D (in)	H (in)
Ni-Cd	59	28	68
VLA	83	28	71











Technology	Weight (lbs)
Ni-Cd	1,652
VLA	4,461





# **Price Comparison**

Technology	Initial Price
Ni-Cd	\$26k
VLA	\$14k



# 5 CHOOSING THE RIGHT TECHNOLOGY

# **Considerations**

- High Temperature
- Low Temperature
- > Longer Life
- Low Maintenance
- > Storage
- Space Weight
- Vibration / Shock
- Cost of Failure





# High Temperature – Shortens Life

#### Lead Acid

 Life is cut 50% for every 15°F over 77°F

#### **Nickel Cadmium**

 Life is cut 20% for every 15°F over 77°F

#### **Normal Service Life**

- VRLA 3 10 years
- Flooded Lead 12 15 years
- Ni-Cd 25+ years





# Low Temperature – Reduces Performance



Nickel cadmium can operate to – 50C, no danger of freezing. Lead Acid can Freeze



# Life Cycle Curve



- Ni-Cd cells loose about 1% capacity per year of life, they can continue service after 25 years with no catastrophic failure and will not fail in open circuit.
- When lead acid cells fail, they fail abruptly
- Graph shows ideal environment, maintenance and operating parameters.





# Maintenance

#### Why is it important?

- Secure and protect the battery investment
- Required for some applications (NERC/FERC)
- Predict failures
- Easy warranty claims

#### Must consider:

- Total cost of ownership
- Site location and accessibility

Maintenance	<b>IEEE 450</b>	<b>IEEE 1188</b>	IEEE 1106
Procedures	Lead Acid	VRLA	Nickel Cadmium
Visual inspection	Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly
Pilot cell reading	Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly
Float voltage – battery	Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly
Float voltage – cells	Quarterly	Semi-annually	Semi-annually
Watering	3-6 Months	Never / replace	1.8 – 20 Years



# Storage

#### How often do you hear, "The site is not ready."

- Once filled, Lead Acid needs refreshing charge every 3-6 months
- Nickel Cadmium Pocket Plate (SBLE/SBM/SBH) can be stored for 6 months to 1 year (filled and charged) or many years dry and discharged.
- Sintered Plastic Bonded Electrode (SPH) Cells can be stored discharged for many years.
- Uptimax are supplied filled and charged and can be stored for 2 years in this condition.
- Consider the battery's DATE CODE!
- On-site commissioning is recommended for all batteries



# Cost of failure

- Battery cost in relation to protected equipment cost is negligible.
- Loss of power could result in loss of thousands to millions of dollars or even loss of life.
- Lead Batteries even when monitored and maintained can be unpredictable as to when they will fail. Lead cells usually fail as an open circuit. One lead-acid cell failure will take out whole battery.
- Nickel Cadmium have very gradual capacity loss. Ni-Cd cells fail as a short circuit. The battery will still function with loss of several cells.



# **Further References**

- IEEE1106 Recommended practice for Installation, Maintenance, Testing, and replacement of Vented Nickel-Cadmium Batteries
- IEEE1115- Recommended Practice for Sizing Nickel-Cadmium batteries for stationary applications
- IEEE 450 Recommended practice for Maintenance, Testing and replacement
  of Vented Lead-Acid Batteries
- IEEE484 Recommended practice for Installation of Vented Lead-Acid batteries
- IEEE485 Recommended Practice for Sizing Lead-Acid batteries for stationary applications
- IEEE1188 Recommended practice for Installation, Maintenance, Testing, and replacement of Valve Regulated Lead-Acid Batteries



# **Additional Saft Resources**

#### Lunch and Learns

- Battery Sizing and Selection
- Advanced Nickel Cadmium Concepts
- Advanced Lithium-Ion Concepts
- Battery Chargers and other DC System Components

**Guide Specifications for Consultants** 

**Factory Battery Maintenance Training** 

# Thank You . . . Questions??