

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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Temporary Memorandum
Western Electric Company, Incorporated
Installation Engineering - Kearny

T.M. 8.62

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POWER
KS-15578 NICKEL-CADMIUM ENGINE START BATTERIES
NIFE MANUFACTURER

1. GENERAL

1.1 This T.M. deals with a phase of the installation procedure for all list numbers of NIFE engine start batteries assembled in steel containers.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 A fire occurred recently during shipment which could have been caused by the shipping carton forcing the metal vent lid to an extreme-open position. The lid in turn, could have contacted an intercell connector and caused a short circuit.

2.2 By design during normal battery operation, the metal lid has attached to the underside a loosely fitted plastic vent cone which lays over the neck of the filling funnel. For shipping purposes, the factory forces a temporary wooden plug into the neck of the funnel and this holds open the plastic vent cone and lid. To prevent the lid from being propped open during shipment, the factory will remove the plastic vent cones and ship them separately. The installer will attach the plastic vent cones after removing the wooden plugs.

3. ACTION

3.1 A "Warning" instruction to the installers will accompany each battery until the design problem is eliminated. This "Warning" is repeated below:

"Warning"

"(1) Lift vent lids and remove wood shipping plugs from vents before connecting battery circuits.

(2) Screw black plastic vent cones (furnished separately) to underside of vent lid before closing."

4. DISPOSITION OF EXPENSE

4.1 The work outlined above shall be considered a normal job operation and should not be reported to the Area Planner for issuance of a supplementary estimate.

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