- Battery buying basics.

a. The radio make / model number tells us what batteries options are available for your equipment.
b. The charger model determines which of the 3 types of batteries you can charge. Ni-Cad, Ni-MH or Li-Ion
c. The battery model defines exactly the power capacity and battery chemistry you are replacing.
d. The mAH rating on the battery is the battery power rating for matching the battery to the application.
(Note; 2000mAh battery will have a much longer run time between charges than a 1200mAh.)
e. Battery Chemistry is very important. Best = Li-Ion Better = Ni-MH Good = Ni-Cad

Please familiarize yourself with this basic critical battery usage, storage and charging information below.

Please follow the instructions below to help preserve your radio batteries or other rechargeable batteries. Proper long term storage of your radio batteries is a matter of safety and money savings.

Do not charge the battery for longer than the specified time!

If the battery pack has not finished charging *even* after the regulated time has passed, stop it. The battery may generate heat or smoke, rupture, or burst into flame.
Leaving the batteries "on charge" vastly reduces overall battery life.

Do not use an abnormal battery! If the battery pack emits a bad odor, appears to *have* different coloring, is deformed, or seems abnormal for any other reason, *remove* it from the charger or operating equipment and do not use it. The battery may generate heat or smoke, rupture, or burst into flame.

• Using the Battery Pack

Charge the battery pack completely before using it.
Know your charger. Many chargers have lights that blink or change color to tell you when the charge is completed or if the battery has a problem.
To keep the battery discharge at a minimum, *remove* the battery pack from the equipment when it is not in use. Store the battery pack in a cool and dry location.

When storing the battery pack for a long period:
1. *Remove* the battery pack from the equipment.
2. Store the battery pack in a cool (below 77°F) and dry location.
3. Unplug the charger to protect it from possible power surge / lightening.
4. NiMH and NiCd batteries self discharge at a fast rate. In fact, at "room temperature" batteries will self discharge a few percent PER DAY. Storing them at lower temperatures will slow their self discharge rate dramatically.

• Characteristics of the Battery Pack

As the battery pack is charged and discharged repeatedly, the battery capacity decreases.
Even if the battery pack is unused, the battery pack degrades.
Do not *leave* the battery pack in vehicles or near heating appliances.
When the battery pack operating time becomes short, *even* if it is fully charged, replace the battery pack.
Continuing to charge and discharge the battery pack may result in electrolyte leakage.