

IEEE Recommended Practice for Personnel Qualifications for Installation and Maintenance of Stationary Batteries

IEEE Power and Energy Society

Sponsored by the
Energy Storage and Stationary Battery Committee

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IEEE Recommended Practice for Personnel Qualifications for Installation and Maintenance of Stationary Batteries

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Abstract: The areas of recommended knowledge for installers and maintainers of stationary batteries and related systems, to the extent that they affect the battery, are defined in this recommended practice. Design of the dc system and sizing of the dc battery charger(s) are beyond the scope of this document. Only lead-acid and nickel-cadmium battery technologies are covered in this recommended practice. An outline (not necessarily in training order) of the items that should be covered by training programs for stationary battery installation and maintenance personnel is provided. Certifying trained personnel and providing its own battery technician training programs will not be performed by IEEE.

Keywords: battery, certification, classroom, competent, course, curriculum, education, experience, IEEE 1657™, inspect, install, instruct, knowledge, level, maintenance, monitor, preventative, proactive, proficient, qualification, routine, service, skill, student, teach, technician, test

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Introduction

This introduction is not part of IEEE Std 1657™-2018, IEEE Recommended Practice for Personnel Qualifications for Installation and Maintenance of Stationary Batteries.

Although ac and dc electricity follow the same physical laws, there are differences. Training of electricians worldwide is fairly standardized through apprenticeship programs, classroom and self-paced training courses, etc. Although electricians are trained on dc, they spend most of their time working on ac systems. As a result, an electrician hired to work on dc systems (especially battery systems) may not have the expertise, training, or experience to install or work on batteries. The Energy Storage and Stationary Battery (ESSB) committee of the IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) recognizes that specific training on battery system installation and maintenance is necessary. The committee also recognizes that training of battery maintenance and installation technicians is generally nonexistent or, at the least, nonstandard. With those concerns in mind, the committee has written this recommended guide for training to specify the types of knowledge a battery installation or maintenance technician should possess in order to safely and competently work on primarily stationary standby lead-acid and nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries (although the document does give some minimal guidance on other battery chemistries, and most of the principles herein are usually applicable to stationary cycling applications as well).

Acknowledgments

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Contents

1. Overview.....	11
1.1 Scope.....	11
1.2 Purpose.....	11
1.3 How to use this document.....	11
2. Normative references.....	12
3. Definitions, acronyms, and abbreviations.....	12
3.1 Definitions.....	12
3.2 Acronyms and abbreviations.....	12
4. Skill levels.....	14
4.1 General.....	14
4.2 Technician skill levels.....	15
4.3 Instructor knowledge and skills.....	15
4.4 Accreditation.....	16
5. Safety.....	16
5.1 Work environment.....	16
5.2 Personal protective equipment (PPE).....	16
5.3 Electrical shock hazards.....	18
5.4 Insulation.....	19
5.5 Ladder safety.....	20
5.6 Lockout/tagout.....	21
5.7 Electrostatic discharge (ESD) precautions.....	22
5.8 Ventilation.....	22
5.9 Working clearances, egress paths, and task lighting.....	22
5.10 Battery weight concerns.....	22
5.11 Battery fire safety concerns.....	23
5.12 Safety signs.....	23
5.13 First aid.....	23
5.14 Spill containment and cleanup.....	24
6. Basic dc theory.....	24
6.1 Terminology.....	24
6.2 Basic electrical component.....	26
6.3 Basic mathematics.....	28
6.4 Basics of electrical circuits.....	28
6.5 Basics of rectification.....	29
6.6 Basics of inverter.....	31
6.7 Disconnect and overcurrent protection.....	31
6.8 Grounded and ungrounded systems.....	32
7. Battery basics.....	34
7.1 General.....	34
7.2 Stationary battery types.....	34
7.3 Basic constructions.....	35
7.4 Failure modes and causes.....	36
7.5 Charge and discharge characteristics.....	38
7.6 Voltage and specific gravity.....	40
8. Documentation.....	41
8.1 Applicable codes and standards.....	41

8.2	Manufacturer documentation	44
8.3	Reading electrical and mechanical drawings	44
8.4	Keeping records.....	46
8.5	Job-specific documentation	46
9.	Installation and maintenance skills.....	47
9.1	General skills.....	47
9.2	Specific installation skills.....	54
9.3	Specific maintenance skills.....	62
10.	Cable management	67
10.1	Cable ratings.....	67
10.2	Ampacity and voltage drop.....	68
10.3	Cable weight stress	68
10.4	Cable routing and management	69
11.	Recycling	70
11.1	Lead-acid battery recycling	70
11.2	Ni-Cd battery recycling	70
	Annex A (informative) Analog and digital meters	71
	Annex B (normative) Hands-on training and testing	72
	Annex C (informative) Voltage and current effects on the human body	81
	Annex D (informative) Safety implications of a UPS without an isolation transformer	84
	Annex E (informative) Common formulas used by battery technicians	86
	Annex F (normative) Task-level summary tables.....	89
	Annex G (normative) DC cabling information.....	104
	Annex H (informative) Battery PPE decision flowchart.....	108
	Annex I (informative) Glossary.....	109
	Annex J (informative) Bibliography	112

IEEE Recommended Practice for Personnel Qualifications for Installation and Maintenance of Stationary Batteries

1. Overview

1.1 Scope

This recommended practice defines the areas of recommended knowledge for installers and maintainers of stationary standby batteries (primarily lead-acid and Ni-Cd standby batteries) and related systems to the extent that they affect the battery, personnel safety and reliability of any related systems. Designing the dc system (including any connected ac inverters) and sizing of the dc battery charger(s) are beyond the scope of this recommended practice. While some of the battery information covered by this practice applies to small off-grid cycling applications, information relative to large energy storage cycling applications is limited.

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this recommended practice is to provide an outline (curriculum) of the necessary items that should be covered by training programs for stationary battery installation and maintenance personnel. The order in which the items in this document are covered is at the discretion of the training developer/provider.

1.3 How to use this document

This recommended practice is written as a syllabus for the benefit of the course developers and instructors. It assumes that the developers and instructors will arrange the sequence and create the content of the training to fit personal preference and the needs of the audience. The guidelines included here detail the minimum skill levels that would be expected for a battery technician. Nothing precludes the instructor from creating a more extensive curriculum.

This recommended practice further assumes that all material covered will be tested and scored to demonstrate the students' grasp of the material. Such testing should utilize both written and hands-on demonstration as appropriate for the particular skill. No test guidelines are included in this document; however, suggestions regarding items appropriate for hands-on testing instead of written testing can be found in [Annex B](#).