

BATTERY SAFETY

Conventional batteries contain caustic acid and toxic materials. While the batteries used in RSS operate at fairly low voltages, they hold substantial amounts of energy. Whenever this energy is discharged quickly (through a short or explosion), people can get seriously hurt. Here are some rules for battery safety.

Rule #1: DON'T SHORT THE BATTERY!

Shorting the positive and negative battery terminals will provide a rapid discharge path. The battery will try to discharge completely, and quickly. Enormous current will pass through the connection, causing potentially serious burns to anyone nearby, and perhaps an explosion.

Do not let any metal object (e.g. a screwdriver, wrench, piece or wire) come into simultaneous contact with both battery terminals. When using a tool near the battery terminals, wrap most of the tool's exposed metal with a few layers of electrical tape.

Rule #2: KEEP FIRE AND SPARKS AWAY FROM THE BATTERY!

Some batteries generate flammable fumes. Keep spark sources (including matches and lit smoking materials) away from batteries.

Rule #3: USE ONLY AN APPROVED CHARGER!

Use only the uOrc power supply to recharge the battery. Chargers are highly specific to batteries; using any other charger can make the battery underperform, damage it, render it useless, or even make it explode.