

# *Technical* Bulletin

**Bulletin No: TB 1012**

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**Subject: Output amperage for charging batteries on EX rated batteries**

Battery Chargers must be set at 150 amps output based on the 200 amp fuse that is included on RICO's EX rated vehicles.

If the battery charger is set to more than 150 amps, the 200 amp fuse can become damaged.

- A fuse is designed to carry a set amount of current, which is carried through a piece of wire. When excess current passes through the wire heat is generated which will eventually cause the wire to melt, breaking the circuit. Fuses are rated differently and some are designed to handle higher than rated current for a short amount of time. However, prolonged periods of excess current will cause enough heat to melt the wire and open the fuse.

Since a typical charging cycle is six to eight hours, charging the battery with a current level greater than rated, even if slightly, will cause the fuse to open or greatly decrease the life of the fuse.

A damaged fuse will see a shortened life cycle and can blow when the truck is operated outside of normal operating conditions.

If the battery charger is set to more than 150 amps, it must be reset to 150 amps immediately. Also, **ALL** fuses in the battery must be changed out if it has experienced more than 150 amps during charging. Resetting the charger to 150 amps will increase the time needed to charge the battery, however, it will also increase the life of the fuse.