

Battery Condition Monitoring Workgroup

Statement of Purpose

The automobile electrical system of the future will incorporate some method of battery condition monitoring. A wide range of proposals has been advanced, ranging from very crude methods to the development of extensively instrumented batteries with built in microprocessors.

In the middle of this spectrum are proposals which rely on additional sensors on the vehicle (with few or no sensors on the battery), and with all digital processing done on the vehicle, not on the battery. The focus of this workgroup is on this mid-range class of battery condition monitors.

The function of such battery condition monitors can be greatly enhanced if the vehicle computer has access to information about the battery. The information required should be known to the battery manufacturer, and the battery manufacturers should be willing to provide this information with the battery.

The fundamental purpose of this workgroup is to propose the technical content of a proposed industry standard for the exchange of such information.

Matters to be agreed include:

- Definitions of the parameters to be provided
- Operational methods (tests) whereby the values of the parameters can be determined for a given battery construction
- One or more standardized methods whereby data can be communicated to the condition monitor, both during manufacture of the automobile and at the time of battery replacement.