



**TOWER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY**

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## **NiCad 101**

With proper care, a NiCad battery will give you approximately 500 charge - discharge cycles and supply 80% of the rated capacity after one year of service.

Allow the battery time to reach room temperature and never charge a cold or hot battery. Charging a cold (below 40°F) or hot battery (above 104°F) will significantly reduce its charger - discharge cycle life.

The Nickel Cadmium Battery must be initialized before being placed in service. Charge your new battery at least 15 hours to obtain maximum battery capacity.

Do not leave your radio and fully charged battery in the charger. This, in effect, will slowly cook and baste the battery and significantly reduce its cycle life. A charger is not a radio stand.

Only charge the battery when it has been fully discharged. Charging a partially discharged battery creates "memory effect". The battery learns the discharge and charge cycle and over time, delivering less and less power to the radio. For extended operating time, it is more cost effective to carry a spare battery.

A Rapid Charger does not fully charge the battery. When the light turns green, give the battery an additional one to two hours to complete the charge cycle.

New Batteries can be stored for two years and still retain close to original cycle life. Batteries should be stored fully charged and at room temperature in a dry area.

Never use a battery that has a cracked, melted, or swollen case. Batteries can create extreme heat and explode.

Do not discard a battery because the radio only operates for a few hours. Have it analyzed by your service provider. They may be able to cycle and bring new life to your battery.

**Occasionally clean the battery and charger contacts to maintain good electrical contact during a charge cycle.**