Storing Optima Batteries

1) **FIFO (first in first out)**
   a. Unlike many other products, the storage life of batteries is limited. Therefore, it is very important to maintain a good FIFO system. Helpful for maintaining a good FIFO system for Optima batteries are the heat codes, which can be found on the short side of the cover. The code consists out of 4 numbers. For example 8286. The first number represents the year, the next three the date when the batteries left the factory. So in this example we talk about a battery of 2008, day 286 (Julian date calendar available on request)
2) **maintenance**
   a. Batteries in storage will decrease in Voltage over time, due to the self discharge. Although the self discharge of Optima batteries is very low, it is recommended to do a random Voltage check regularly. Since the self discharge will also depend on the ambient temperature, the interval for random Voltage checks will vary.
      Recommended is the following:
      1. 0'C until 15°C average; check every 5-6 months
      2. 15'C until 25°C average; check every 4-5 months
      3. >25°C check every 3 months
   b. Always check the Voltage of a battery before delivery.
      The following guideline can be used to determine what to do :

OCV	Description
12.83 V (SLI)	100 % charged Starter Battery (RedTop)
13.18 V (DC)	100 % charged deep cycle Battery (YellowTop)
> 12.55 V	Battery OK for shipment to a dealer
> 12.40 V	Battery OK for selling to an ultimate buyer or to a garage for immediately fitting. When not fitted immediately, recharge
<12.4 and >12.2 V	Selling only after charging
< 12.2 V	Selling only after charging and load test

   c. Since the required cranking power can differ per application, the above should be seen as a guideline. Bigger engines and or low temperatures might require fully charged batteries.
   d. Charge the batteries with a 3 step electronic charger with maximum Voltage set to 14,7 V per battery. (charging guide available on request)

OPTIMA® BATTERIES
THE ULTIMATE POWER SOURCE™