

Battery packs

Six battery packs are available for Tait Orca 5000 portable radios. These battery packs are not serviceable, but their construction and expected life are described below.

The battery packs available are:

- TOPB100 NiCD battery pack;
- TOPB600 NiCD battery pack (slim, no belt clip);
- TOPB200 NiCD battery pack;
- TOPB400 NiMH battery pack;
- TOPB700 NiMH battery pack (slim, no belt clip); and
- TOPB500 NiMH battery pack.

The battery casing is constructed using a rugged resin material, and includes two pieces that are ultrasonically welded together.

Battery shift life

Battery shift life is outlined in Table E-1. Battery shift life for other models and circumstances can be calculated from the typical drain rates on page E-4.

For intrinsically safe batteries, see page A-11.

Preserving battery shift life

It is important that you follow the steps below

to preserve the shift life of the battery:

- Charge or change the battery as soon as the radio gives the 'Low Battery' warning.
- Short condition the battery weekly.
- Long condition the battery only for the following reasons: on first use of new battery, if performance is poor, and after more than two weeks of storage.
- Avoid leaving charged batteries in the charger for more than a day.
- Clean electrical contacts of the battery using a fibre glass pencil, or the graphite tip of a type 4H (#4) or harder pencil.
- Always store the battery detached from the radio when storing for more than a few days.
- Turn the radio off when it is unattended for long periods.
- Use only a Tait-recommended charger.
- Maintain an ambient temperature of between 5°C and 40°C during recharging. Optimum battery performance will be obtained between 15°C and 25°C.
- Do not allow the battery pack contacts to become short-circuited.

Table E-1: Typical battery shift life (in hours) based on a 5:5:90 duty cycle for a new conditioned battery pack*.

Battery type	Radio type		
	Conventional - Medium Economy	Conventional - No Economy	Trunked
TOPB100/600 NiCD	8.5	7	6.5
TOPB400/700 NiMH	10.5	8.5	8
TOPB200 NiCD	11.5	9	8.5
TOPB500 NiMH	15	12	11

* Users should aim to have one hour spare capacity at the end of their shift to allow for battery ageing.