PARALLAX POWER COMPONENTS L.L.C.

Ferro-Resonant Series Converter F.A.Q.'s

Q. Can I leave my 700 or 900 series ferro-resonant converter connected to AC power indefinitely?
A. Yes. However, your "wet-cell" battery or batteries will still require regular and routine maintenance to prevent premature battery failure.

Q. I think my converter is overcharging the batteries. Isn't the charger supposed to shut off the current when the battery is fully charged?
A. No. The battery or batteries control whether or not current flows into them by their voltage; a lower voltage (discharged) battery draws more current from the converter, while a higher voltage (charged) battery will draw less current.

After the batteries are fully charged some current is still needed to counter the batteries self discharge, so the converter perpetually trickle-charges the batteries. The ideal situation for prolonged storage is to turn the converter on for ten hours a month. This will keep battery gassing/fluid loss to a minimum. Non-sealed batteries should be checked for fluid level at least once a month. **Refer to the Owner/Operator manual for additional information.**

Q. Can I connect "gel" or "AGM" batteries to my ferro-resonant converter?
A. Yes, Our "float- voltage" is set at 13.8 volts DC. This should present no problems to these types of batteries. However, always check the battery manufacturer specifications for voltage recommendations.

Q. What is the maximum charging rate of my ferro-resonant converter to my batteries?
A. The converter/charger will deliver current up to its full rated output. All DC load devices connected to the DC load terminals and the battery will share this available current. However the current used by the battery during recharge is still controlled by the batteries.

Q. How fast may I expect my batteries to recharge?
A. The time required is dependent upon several variables. The number of batteries in the system, how much the batteries have been discharged, and other DC loads connected to the DC load terminals that may be powered on and using available current.

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Q. I have read that I must leave my battery connected to my ferro-resonant converter. Why is this important?
A. The ferro-resonant type converter output is not a filtered DC output. Therefore, any DC load circuits that need a "pure" DC voltage will not operate properly unless the battery remains connected. Examples of some items that may require filtered DC would include the 12 VDC TV, radio, computer power ports, and some fluorescent lights. You may add our **optional SB100 "Simulated Battery"** to the system in the event you wish to take your battery "offline" for extended periods. One or more SB-100 units may be required depending on the rated converter amperage output.

Q. I'm hearing a "hum" from my converter. Is this normal?
A. Yes, it is normal. The power transformer in the converter will naturally produce some hum. In ferro-resonant designs the hum is generally louder with lighter DC amperage output.

Q. My ferro-resonant series converter gets very hot to the touch. Is something wrong?
A. No. It is a normal function of the ferro-resonant power transformer. The power transformer will "turn off" if design limits for temperature are exceeded. The converter will automatically resume operation after it has cooled down sufficiently.

Q. My DC voltage monitor reports that my converter output voltage changes when I am running my generator. Why does this happen?
A. The ferro-resonant type converter is frequency sensitive and should only be operated with the incoming AC electricity at 60 Hz. When operating from generator the "genset" frequency should be checked and if necessary adjusted to operate between 60 to 63 Hz.

Q. Can my ferro-resonant converter be mounted vertically?
A. No, due to the weight of the power transformer, it should only be mounted horizontally.