



## South Western Communications, Inc.

### Detention Electronics Group

#### Batteries Service Bulletin September 2011

Many electronic systems that SWC installs use batteries. Most are for temporary backup power to keep the systems operating in the event of utility power failure. Once the generator starts, the batteries begin recharging for the next time they are needed. Among batteries included in this group are Fire Alarm, UPS, and Card Access power supplies.

Other equipment includes batteries that retain the program, date and other important data that can have a great influence on whether the system continues operating normally. Among batteries in this group are PLC modules CPU or ASC, card access CPU, and computer tower motherboards. For instance, if the card access program or date is lost, it may regard all cards as expired and quit opening the doors.

If system stops working every time power fails, that is the symptom of a failed battery and a new battery may be needed immediately. Below is a general guide for battery replacement. Actual battery life is determined primarily by how often the utility power fails and the temperature of the electronics. Studies have noted that higher than 77 degrees causes premature system failures, including batteries. If batteries are replaced on a repeating schedule, you may prevent a surprise system failure.

<b><u>System</u></b>	<b><u>Schedule</u></b>
Fire Alarm Controls	Three years
Small UPS	Two years
Large UPS	Five years
PLC CPU module	Five years
PLC ASC module	Five years
Card access power supply	Two years
Card access CPU	Two years
Computer motherboard	Five years

Prior bulletins on various subjects may be reviewed at <http://www.swcdec.com/Bulletins.htm>

Contact us for your service needs at [service2@swc.net](mailto:service2@swc.net) or visit us at [www.swcdec.com](http://www.swcdec.com)

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