



Press information

New battery system provides better driver comfort and more reliable starts

Volvo Trucks is introducing a new battery system for Volvo FH and Volvo FM, which provides sufficient power for all in-cab functions while also reducing the risk of standstill due to discharged batteries.

“Drivers can enjoy improved comfort and living conditions, knowing that they have enough power for their needs, with minimal risk of draining all the power from the starter batteries,” says Samuel Nerdal, Product Manager Electrical and Electronics at Volvo Trucks.

The new battery system has two separate battery sets – one for starting the engine, and the other for all other in-cab electrical equipment. The starter battery's only function is to crank the engine and is not affected by power consumption in the rest of the truck. All other functions such as the parking heater, parking cooler, refrigerator, media system and personal equipment including laptops, mobile phones and tablets, are powered by separate gel batteries.

By using gel technology, the new battery solution can meet the increasingly high energy requirements demanded by many customers today. Compared to conventional lead-acid batteries, gel technology has the ability to maintain high concentrations of energy for long periods of time.

“These benefits can be seen primarily in long-distance transport assignments and in really hot or cold climates. Even on winter nights, the driver can enjoy a good night’s rest without having to get up and start the engine in order to recharge the batteries,” explains Samuel Nerdal.

Fewer engine starts also means lower fuel consumption and reduced environmental impact. “A parked truck with an idling engine consumes about three litres of fuel per hour. With our solution, it is possible to minimise idling time and thus significantly cut fuel costs,” says Samuel Nerdal.

The new gel batteries offer a far longer service lifetime than conventional lead-acid batteries, as well as more charging cycles. In fact, during tough cycles, the gel batteries will last at least 10-15 times longer.



“Our battery system not only meets today’s high demands for a secure electricity supply, it also contributes to increased vehicle uptime and lower operating costs. This is a solution that will benefit many customers,” says Samuel Nerdal.

Facts: Volvo Trucks’ new battery system

- Available as an option on the new Volvo FH and Volvo FM trucks in European markets.
- Features two battery sets with separate circuits.
- Electrically powered comfort systems and accessories are supplied by 210 Ah gel batteries.
- The starter battery system consists of conventional lead-acid batteries, 800 A CCA.
- The gel batteries can either be installed at the rear with the starter batteries on the left hand side, or in a combined battery box with the starter batteries on the left hand side.

[Direct link to images in high resolution](#)

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