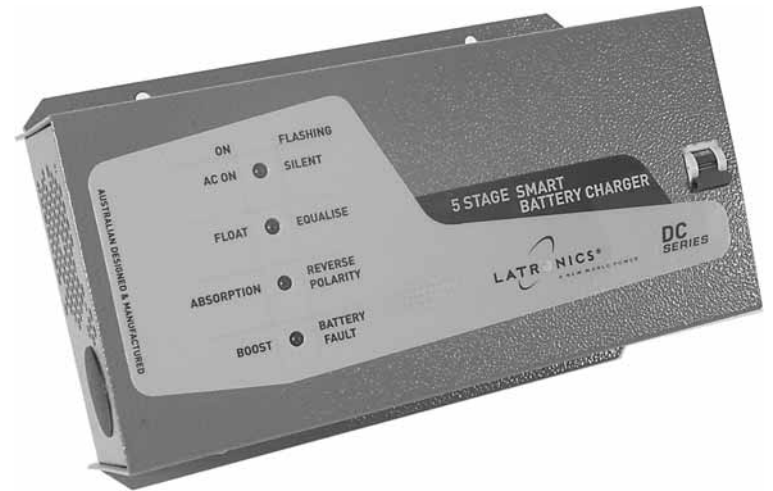


# INSTRUCTION MANUAL



## ***DC SERIES***

**FIVE STAGE SMART CHARGER**

**30A - 12V**

**15A - 24V**

Latronics P.O. Box 73 Moffat Beach Qld 4551  
Ph 61 7 5491 6988  
web: [www.latronics.com](http://www.latronics.com) email: [technical@latronics.com](mailto:technical@latronics.com)



REPLY PAID MB 1  
LATRONICS  
P. O. BOX 73  
MOFFAT BEACH QLD 4551

NO POSTAGE REQUIRED IF  
POSTED IN AUSTRALIA



# WELCOME

**Latronics** products are all proudly designed, engineered and manufactured in Australia. As a specialist power electronics company we produce Inverters & Chargers for a diverse range of applications such as; mining, railways, telecommunications, marine, remote power, motor homes, and other industrial or commercial installations.

In order to produce the most reliable products available, **Latronics** Chargers have been designed to endure the most rugged terrain and the harshest conditions across the Australian continent.

All products are engineered using the latest high quality components and manufactured to stringent quality standards, thus ensuring **Latronics** customers all enjoy many years of trouble free operation.

It is important to us at **Latronics**, that our clients enjoy the maximum benefits from our Chargers in a safe and productive environment. So we strongly advise that you read through the next few pages of this manual, which explains all the modes of operation and relevant safety precautions for your new Charger.

**Please remember to complete and return your registration card on the last page of this manual to validate your 2-year warranty. Please retain your receipt as proof of purchase.**

**LATRONICS  
PO BOX 73  
MOFFAT BEACH Q 4551**

**PH: 61 7 5491 6988      FAX: 61 7 5491 6792**

**EMAIL: [technical@latronics.com](mailto:technical@latronics.com)  
WEB: [www.latronics.com](http://www.latronics.com)**

## IMPORTANT !

**Please complete and return this Registration Card to Validate your 2-year Warranty**

Serial No..... Date card returned.....



### REGISTRATION CARD

Your 2-year warranty is only valid if this card is completed & returned within 3 months of the date of purchase.

Name:.....Serial No:.....

Address: .....Post code:.....

Date of Purchase:.....Supplier:.....

Comments:.....

*~Where is your Charger being used?*

Solar Power  Camping/Caravan  Marine/Boat  Commercial  Backup Supply  Other

*~Was your decision made because of?*

Features  Value for Money  Appearance  Recommendation  Warranty  Australian Made

*~How do you rate the service from your supplier?* Fair  Good  Very Good  Excellent

*~Did your new Charger meet your expectations?* Above Expectations  Yes  No

## CHARGER SPECIFICATIONS

CHARGER MODEL                      DC-1230                      DC-2415

Nominal DC Voltage	12V	24V
Charge Current Continuous	30A	15A
Equivalent RMS Current	45A	22A
Boost Voltage	13.9 - 15.2	27.8 - 30.4
Absorb Voltage	13.9 - 15.2	27.8 - 30.4
Float Voltage	13.0 - 14.0	26.0 - 28.0
Equalise Voltage	14.8 - 15.4	29.6 - 30.8
Input Voltage	240 Vac +/- 5%	
Input Frequency	45 - 65 Hz	
Operating Temperature	-10° C to +50° C	
DC to AC Isolation	3500V	
Battery Leads	1 m Long with 10mm mounting Lugs	
Protection Circuitry	Overtemperature, Overload/ Short circuit, Reverse Polarity	
Dimensions	260 mm x 160 mm x 100 mm	
Enclosure	Powder Coated Aluminium	
Warranty	2 years	
Standards	AS3100, EN55014 & C-tick	

Due to constant improvements, specifications are subject to change without prior notice.

BATTERY TYPE	EQUALISATION		ABSORPTION		FLOAT	
	HOT	COLD	HOT	COLD	HOT	COLD
Lead Calcium	15.0V	15.4V	14.8V	15.2V	13.6V	14.0V
AGM	NA	NA	14.0V	14.7V	13.0V	13.6V
Gel/SLA	NA	NA	13.9V	14.3V	13.1V	13.5V
Flooded	14.8V	15.2V	14.0V	14.4V	13.2V	13.6V

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## INSTALLATION

- Ensure the Charger has not been damaged in transit.
- The unit must be placed in a well-ventilated and protected area, not exposed to the open environment, and free from contaminants (i.e. Exhaust gases, sea air, battery gases, dust).
- A space of 10cm is needed on each side of the Charger for adequate transfer of internal heat.
- The Charger can be mounted vertically on a wall or horizontally on a table or shelf.

## DC WIRING

- For best performance, the unit should be placed as close as possible, but not directly on top of the battery supply.
- The Charger DC output voltage is stated on the identification label of the Charger. Check that it is the same voltage as the battery supply.
- The Charger is designed to operate on a 240Vac mains supply only.
- The Charger is fitted with a circuit breaker in line with the battery positive lead, which negates the need for a battery fuse.
- Ensure the Charger is switched OFF before connecting to the Battery. Turn the DC circuit breaker switch to the OFF position.
- Connect the Charger DIRECTLY to the battery terminals for best performance.
- Battery leads marked RED = (positive), & BLACK = (negative).

### OBSERVE POLARITY

NOTE: Cables connecting the Charger to the battery are designed to achieve maximum efficiency and output power:

DC CABLES SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED.

## WARRANTY CONDITIONS

All conditions and warranties expressed or implied by statute, common law, equity, trade, custom, usage, or otherwise howsoever are hereby expressly excluded to the maximum extent permitted by law. Where so permitted the liability of Latronics for a breach of condition or warranty that cannot be excluded is limited (at Latronics option) to the replacement or repair of the goods or of acquiring equivalent goods or the cost of replacing or repairing the goods or of acquiring equivalent goods. Latronics shall not be liable in any way whatsoever for indirect or consequential loss or damage whatsoever (whether based on tort or contract or otherwise).

- Damage caused by unauthorized repair, alteration or substitution of non-standard parts, incorrect installation, misuse, negligence, accident or similar cause, or usage other than in accordance with the operating instructions, is not covered under warranty.
- Unauthorized opening of the goods will render the Warranty invalid.
- The company may, at its discretion, agree to act as agent for the owner where delivery is requested and all costs for cartage and insurance will be for the owners account.
- The replacement of any part or labour involved will not have the effect of extending the period of the warranty of the goods.
- Any faulty part replaced under Warranty becomes the property of the Company for purpose of examination and claim under proprietary Warranty.
- Registration Card must be returned within 3 months from date of purchase to validate your 2-year warranty.
- Keep your receipt as proof of purchase, should any difficulties arise concerning the return of the registration card.
- Chargers are supplied by the manufacturer, or the manufactures agents, under the express condition that no responsibility is implied or accepted by the above parties for any damage to any appliance, equipment or property associated with the correct or otherwise operation of the Charger.
- If service is required contact your local supplier/installer, or contact Latronics direct on Ph: 61 7 5491 6988. **Please ensure that you have the Charger Model and Serial number available to enable prompt processing.**

## **FAULT FINDING**

Should the charger appear to be malfunctioning we suggest the following to eliminate any external problems.

1. Turn the charger OFF by disconnecting the AC plug and switching the circuit breaker OFF to disconnect from the batteries.
2. Disconnect all DC battery leads. Clean all terminals by removing all grease/corrosion on both leads and battery terminals.
3. Reconnect all leads and terminals and ensure all connections are tight.
4. Turn the charger ON via the AC plug and DC circuit breaker on the front panel. Observe the lights on the front panel for status and mode of operation. Refer to charger operation section for full explanation of indicators.

*Note* - If battery voltage is below 6V for 12V Charger or below 12V for 24V Charger, this will show as battery fault condition and will not charge.

### **HELPFUL HINTS**

- \* Make sure Green led comes ON when AC plug is connected and turned ON. If Led is OFF check AC fuse.
- \* When the DC Circuit Breaker is turned ON, check that neither of the Battery fault or reverse polarity indicators are flashing.
- \* Make sure terminals and leads are not corroded or faulty in any way.

## **BATTERIES**

### **BATTERY SIZING**

To ensure optimum performance, it is important to match the charger size according to the capacity of your batteries. Use this formula as a general guide:

Approx. Charger Size = Battery AH capacity ÷ 10  
e.g. 300 AH ÷ 10 = 30A Charger  
Minimum Battery size = 100 AH

### **MAINTENANCE**

Battery terminals require frequent care and maintenance. We recommend an inspection of the batteries and the interconnecting cable connections once every 1-3 months or as recommended by the battery manufacturer.

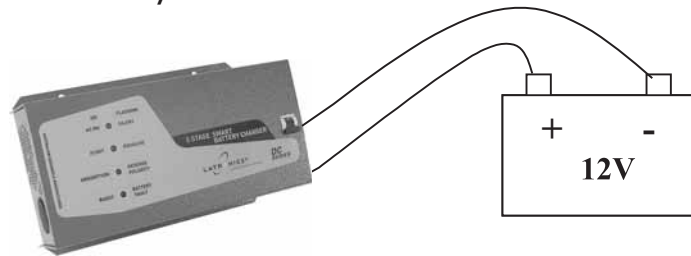
1. Regularly check all connections; make sure they are always tight. Battery terminals are made of soft lead which will slowly compress over time eventually causing loose connections.
2. Check all connections are free of corrosion. Remove any corrosion and coat the terminals with Vaseline or grease to help prevent future corrosion.
3. Take specific gravity or SG readings of each cell using a hydrometer to check the level and performance of each battery. Alternatively a battery voltage reading for each cell will suffice but may not be accurate for multiple batteries connected in parallel. Report any serious imbalance to your system installer or battery supplier for corrective action.

### **SAFETY**

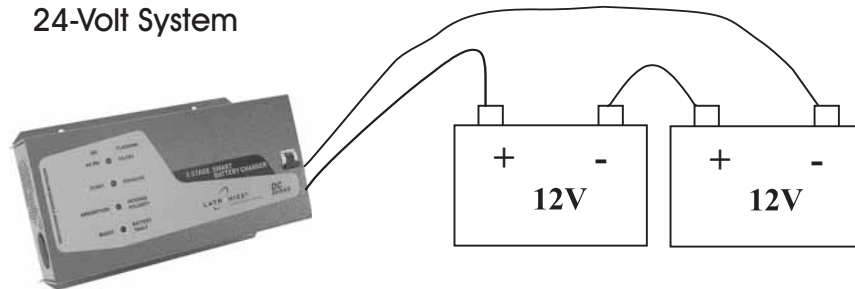
When working on batteries protective clothing and eye wear should be worn. Extreme care should be taken not to short circuit any battery terminals especially with tools. If in doubt have the work carried out by qualified personnel.

## WIRING DIAGRAMS for 12 & 24 Volts DC

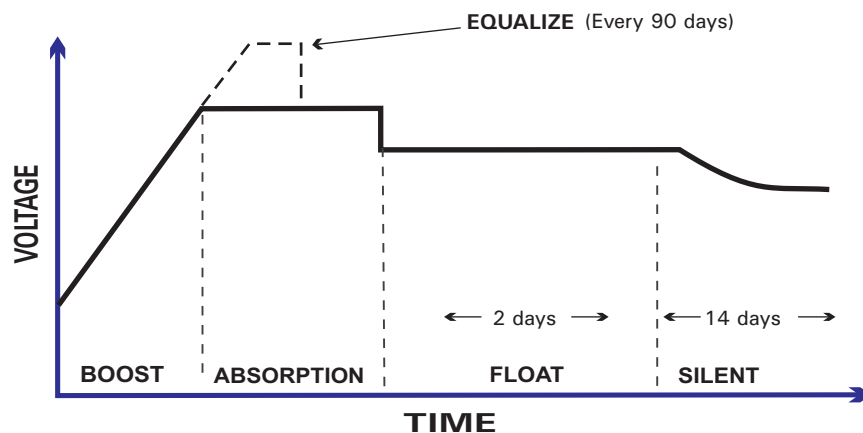
### 12-Volt System



### 24-Volt System



### CHARGING STAGES



## RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE

Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) is a phenomenon that exists in modern society and is a problem in many areas of electronics. For users, RFI normally presents itself in the form of static and/or interference when listening to an AM radio and in unusual cases may interfere with TV reception.

Over the years Latronics has continued to invest significant time and effort in the reduction of RFI related emissions from the entire product range, so that they comply with the appropriate International and/or Australian Standards.

Even with this compliance, there are situations where RFI may still be a cause for concern, and can differ greatly from installation to installation. Accordingly, the following is a list of recommendations made to assist in the overall reduction of RFI.

1. Separate DC and AC wiring. Avoid running DC and AC cables in the same conduits and/or cable trenches. It is strongly recommended that DC and AC wiring be separated by the greatest distance possible. In extreme cases, the use of shielded conduit may be necessary.
2. Minimize length of DC cabling. DC cables can act as an aerial, therefore all such cables should be kept as short as is practicable. For best performance minimize DC cable length between charger and batteries and if possible avoid the use of auxiliary DC loads.
3. 240Vac Earth. For household installations, it is recommended that a "good" Earth Stake is located as nearby any Charger as is possible.
4. AM and HF Radios. These types of radio equipment inherently suffer from all forms of RFI, especially when the received signal level is weak. In such cases reception can sometimes be improved by relocation of the radio itself, alternatively the use of an appropriate external antenna and co-axial cable may be necessary. External antennas should be located in a manner that ensures maximum signal strength whilst affording the greatest possible distance away from the Charger and batteries.
5. Televisions. TV signals are transmitted as FM waveforms. This type of signal fundamentally reduces the effects of RFI, therefore the use of a good antenna and feeder cable is normally sufficient to ensure quality reception. Locating the television as far as possible from the Charger may also improve picture clarity.
6. Mobile Installations. Due to the limitations of this type of installation, the best results for the minimization of RFI are usually obtained by maximizing the distance between the Charger and the Radio/Television.

## **SAFETY**

### **Charger Isolation and Safety**

- \* All Latronics Chargers have an isolation rating of 3500V between AC and DC via the toroidal transformer, which ensures extremely safe and risk free operation.
- \* All the switching electronics and control circuitry are on the DC output.
- \* The single pole circuit breaker assembly ensures that when the Charger is switched OFF, it is isolated from the battery supply.

*Please refer to relevant Australian Standards for safety procedures.*

### **AC WIRING**

- \* The active and neutral of the 240V AC input are electrically isolated from the battery negative, battery positive, and earth connections.
- \* The Charger AC input is connected directly to the transformer input winding.
- \* Latronics Chargers have the AC input (active and neutral) floating with respect to the DC and Earth. The Earth connection is connected to the case only. This configuration provides the highest safety and most flexibility for installation wiring.
- \* Recommended minimum generator size 1500VA.
- \* The AC fuse is located internally on the main PCB. Fuse rating is Antisurge/Slow blow 5A.

## **STATEMENT OF QUALITY ASSURANCE**

The whole of the supplies have been subjected to the Quality System Requirements in accordance with the conditions of AS/NZS ISO 9002: 1994.

All items are manufactured with full traceability.  
All DC Series 5 Stage Smart Chargers conform to the C-Tick mark for the EMC emission standard EN55014.

## **DIP SWITCH SETTINGS**

In order to access these options you have to open the Charger. Before altering the settings switch Charger OFF, adjust the setting and switch Charger back ON again. We recommend these adjustments be carried out by qualified personnel or your system installer.

### **SW1 SW2 Battery Type**

ON	ON	Lead Calcium
ON	OFF	AGM
OFF	ON	Gel/SLA
OFF	OFF	Flooded

(Factory Setting)

### **SW3 Temperature**

ON = COLD  
OFF = HOT (Factory Settings)

### **SW4 Equalise**

ON = ENABLE (Factory Settings)  
OFF = DISABLE

\* *Note* - Equalise Function is disabled when AGM/GEL battery type is selected.

### **SW5 Silent Mode**

ON = ENABLE (Factory Settings)  
OFF = DISABLE

### **SW6 Special**

ON = Special Factory Test Function. Do not use for normal operation  
OFF = Factory Settings

### **LOCATION OF DIP SWITCHES**



Removable plug for access to selector switches.  
Turn Charger OFF and disconnect AC power cord before removing plug.  
*Note:* Replace plug before reconnecting Charger.

# CHARGER OPERATION

When the charger is first switched on all LED's light up for one second while the microprocessor performs a start up and system check procedure.

## INDICATOR

LED is OFF when no AC power is present.  
LED is ON when AC power is present.  
LED will flash when charger enters silent mode of charging cycle.

## COOLING FAN

Thermostatically and load controlled fan.  
Only operates when required.

## INDICATOR

LED is ON when charger is in float mode of charge cycle. LED will flash during the equalisation mode of the charge cycle.

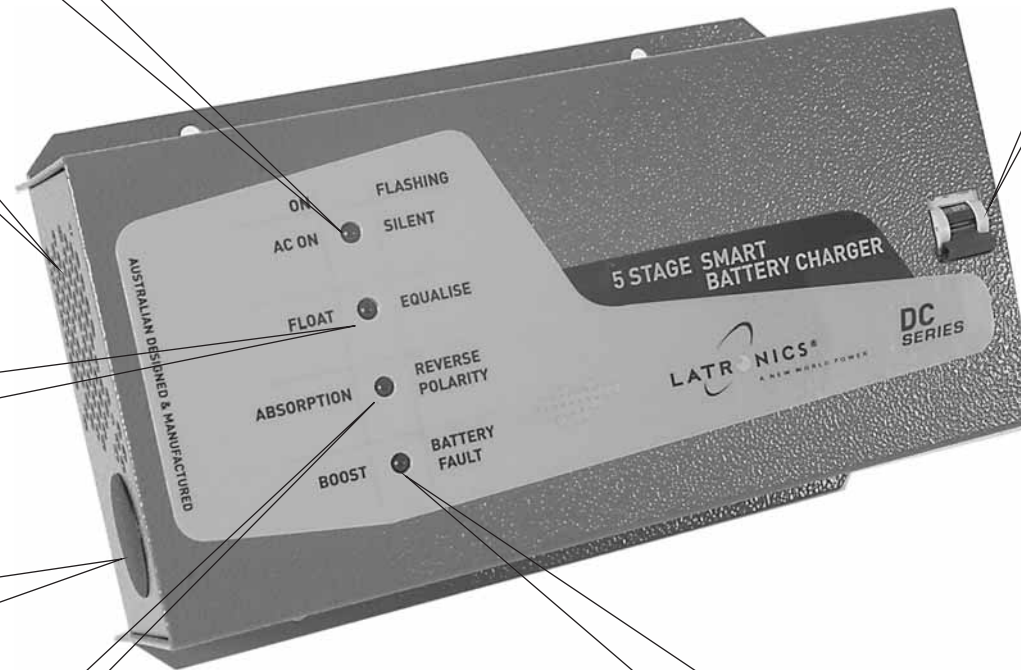
## SELECTOR SWITCHES

Remove plug for access to selector switches.  
See page 5 for details.

## INDICATOR

LED is ON during absorption mode of charge cycle.  
LED will flash when battery leads are reversed.

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## DC CIRCUIT BREAKER

In line with battery positive lead  
Push up - to turn ON  
Push down - to turn OFF and disconnect from batteries.

## DC BATTERY LEADS

Located on end.  
RED = Battery Positive  
BLACK = Battery Negative

## AC POWER CORD

Located on end.

## INDICATOR

LED is ON during boost mode of charge cycle.  
LED will flash for a battery fault condition or no battery connected.  
\*Note: LED will flash if DC Circuit Breaker is OFF.

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