

Company Name

SAFE WORK PRACTICE

BATTERY BOOSTING PRACTICES

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Boosting cables (appropriate gauge)

INTRODUCTION

Improper battery boosting can lead to serious injury if done improperly. Batteries commonly explode when improperly boosted, leading to worker exposure to risk of acid burns and injuries from flying objects.

PRACTICES

1. Pull the running vehicle up close to the dead vehicle. This can either be side-by-side or hood to hood. Just make sure they are close enough for the cables to reach both batteries.
2. Take out the cables and make sure to never touch the ends to each other at any time.
3. First work with the running vehicle. Take one end of the cables and attach them to the battery which is usually up front near the corner of the car when the hood is popped up.
4. There are always two posts on a battery, one is positive and the other is negative. The positive post is usually bigger than the negative, has more wires going to it, is frequently colored red and has a + sign beside the post.
5. Working with the same end of the booster cable (one red clamp and one black clamp):
6. Clamp the red end of the cable to the positive post on the battery.
7. Next clamp the black end of the booster cable to the negative post.
8. Now you should have both clamps from one end of the booster cables attached to the battery of the 'working' vehicle.

Very Important: Make sure to NEVER let the clamps of the booster cables on the loose end touch each other.

- Working with the 'dead' vehicle and the other end of the cables, follow the exact same procedure as above. First attach the red positive clamp to the positive post, and the **black negative clamp attach to a grounded piece of sheet metal of the vehicle** (read comments below).

Important: Make sure to attach the red positive clamp first, then the black negative clamp.

- Now both ends of the cables should be attached, one end to each vehicle. Red clamps attached to each positive post, and black clamps attached to the negative post on the running vehicle and the other negative clamp attached to a grounded metal part of the other vehicle.
- First turn on the 'working' vehicle giving you the boost. Then try starting the 'dead battery' vehicle. If it doesn't start right away, you may need to let the running vehicle run for a minute or two to charge the dead battery, then try starting the dead vehicle again.

SAFE WORK PRACTICE

- If the dead vehicle still doesn't start, make sure the clamps are on the battery posts properly and have not fallen off.
- Once the vehicle with the dead battery is running, do not shut the vehicle off. Keep it running so it recharges the battery.
- Remove the cables from one vehicle at a time.

Important: First remove the black negative clamp, then the red positive clamp.

- Hold the detached clamps in one hand away from the other end while removing the second booster cable end from the second vehicle—or sparks galore again.
- Once the cable has been removed from both vehicles, it's safe to wind them up and put them away.

Work Practice Review Records

Last Review Date	Leader (person responsible)	How (eg: Safety meeting)