FAQ – SOLAR Battery Testers (BA5 & BA7)

What are the SOLAR Battery Testers?
The Solar Battery Testers are new hand-held testers that use the technology of conductance based analysis to determine the voltage and condition of a battery. The units feature a compact easy to use design, large easy to read display and LED lights to support the testing assessment.

The Solar Battery Testers are offered in 2 different models and are compatible with a wide variety of battery types including Conventional SLI (starting, lighting & accessory), Maintenance Free, AGM, Gel Cell, Deep Cycle and Marine batteries ranging in size from 100 - 1200 CCA (lawn/garden, motorcycle & sports vehicles to full size Group 31’s w/ a minimum voltage of 7 volts).

Why are the SOLAR Batter Testers better than other offerings?
Unlike traditional load testers that that require a full or nearly fully charged battery to test, the Solar Battery Testers will work on batteries with a voltage range from 7 to 15 volts saving the time and hassle of recharging the battery before testing.

Solar Battery Testers are unique as they utilize conductance technology to both analyze and load test the battery providing the most accurate diagnosis. Solar Battery Testers give a better picture of the battery’s condition over conductance only battery testers. These units feature reinforced cable attachment points to improve durability.

How can a customer benefit from the SOLAR Battery Testers?
Due to the higher loads placed on batteries and charging systems today, the need for a quick and accurate battery test is many times the first and most critical step in properly diagnosing vehicle issues. Solar Battery Testers provide this critical information.

Solar Battery Testers will provide the fastest and most accurate tests helping the technician better assess battery condition and know when replacement is needed. Accurate testing will reduce unnecessary replacement both in and out of warranty.

Are the Solar Battery Testers difficult to use?
NO! The Solar Battery Testers simply require the technician to connect to the battery (it is polarity protected for safety), determine the battery type (standard battery versus specialty battery - AGM, Deep Cycle, Gel) and then enter the CA or CCA rating. In less than two seconds the screen shows the battery rating. In addition, there are easy to read LED lights confirming the testing diagnosis.

Can I test the charging system?
Yes, The Solar Battery & System Tester Part (Model #BA7) also offers several 12V charging system test functions. This model captures voltage from starter draw, alternator output at idle and alternator output with a load. Performing these tests support the battery assessment and allows for the most accurate system diagnosis. The Model #BA7 Solar Battery & System Tester combines battery & system testing in one convenient, easy to use tool.