MISTAKES

THAT CAN SHORTEN YOUR FORKLIFT BATTERY'S LIFE BY 1 TO 3 YEARS

A battery is often 30% of a forklift's cost, so it's not an insignificant cost. Make sure you maintain it properly to get the full lifespan (typically 5 years) out of your batteries.

Avoid these mistakes in the Power System Design phase and in the Power Maintenance phase!

POWER SYSTEM DESIGN MISTAKES

Not Considering Your Batteries as Part of a Power System

Your system design should be based on more than just the forklift's battery specification. The best power systems are built after an assessment of your facility's applications and workflows. Drive higher uptimes and longer battery life by optimizing for everything you do today, as well as considering future plans.

Using the Wrong Charger

Many companies, trying to save a little money, switch to new batteries but use old, mismatched chargers. This shortens battery life, drives up power bills, and in the long-term, ends up being more expensive than new chargers.

Not Planning a Charging SOP in Advance

Most companies charge when it's best for the operator, but it's important to set up a charging schedule that also takes into account the needs of your facility and your batteries. A schedule that accommodates both the operator's and the battery's needs will lengthen lifespan tremendously.

POWER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE MISTAKES

Not Implementing an Equalization Schedule

Lead acid batteries require an equalization charge on a regular basis to maintain their long term health and capacity. Build a plan for equalization into your battery-charger plug-up times, then set those schedules into your chargers.

Incorrect Watering

Batteries need to be watered on a schedule. Ideally, batteries are watered right after charging to avoid electrolyte overflow issues, chemical spills, and degradation. Proper water levels ensure electrolytes stay in balance and batteries don't overheat. These expensive mistakes add up over time.

Not Responding Swiftly to Maintenance Issues

It's important to set up a maintenance schedule so you can ensure every battery and charger gets attention when it should. Early identification of issues, paired with course correction, can nip issues in the bud, greatly extending the life of your equipment.

THE WRONG APPROACH TO POWER

Buy the forklift → **Buy a charger** → **Buy a battery**

THE RIGHT APPROACH

Assess your company's process and applications → **Design a power system** → **Implement it properly**

Concerned about your current power equipment and maintenance approach? Schedule a planned maintenance program today!

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Engineering Uptime.