



# Service Bulletin

## PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

**Subject:** (EREV) Informational - Testing And Charging Of The Absorbent Glass Mat (AGM) 12 Volt Battery

**Models:** 2014-2015 Cadillac ELR  
2011-2015 Chevrolet Volt  
2014-2015 Chevrolet Spark

*This PI was superseded to update Models and Recommendation/Instructions Please discard PIC5442A.*

The following diagnosis might be helpful if the vehicle exhibits the symptom(s) described in this PI.

### Condition/Concern

The Cadillac ELR, Chevrolet Spark, and the Chevrolet Volt are all equipped with a AGM Battery (Absorbent Glass Mat Battery)

This is similar to current vehicle lead acid flood batteries, except they use glass mats that absorb electrolytes that are pressed between the plates instead of immersing the plates in electrolytes.

This allows a smaller, lighter battery with the same amount of power and is less susceptible to heat. The maximum permissible voltage allowed for the absorber glass mat battery is 14.8 Volts (at room temperature).

### Recommendation/Instructions

Be sure when using any battery charger that it is set up properly to charge an AGM battery. The preferred charger is the EL-50313 Midtronics GR8 battery charger/tester for use during a PDI, calibration updates or any other repairs that requires use of a battery charger. Make sure to select the proper battery type, AGM and CCA rating during charger set up. The Cadillac ELR and the Chevy Volt have a CCA rating of 600 and the Chevy Spark has a CCA rating of 520.

Selecting the wrong type of battery and CCA rating could cause misdiagnosis and or over charging of the battery which could lead to inadvertent battery replacement or battery damage. Also, when load testing the AGM battery make sure to connect GR8 tester directly to the battery and not the remote connection under the hood.

**Note:** When charging the Chevy Volt, it is also recommended to connect the charger directly to the battery if the battery is accessible. If the battery is not accessible such as a dead battery and the cargo area can not be opened, it is OK to charge or jump start from the remote access area under the hood as long as 40 amps is not exceeded by the charging device.

Please follow this diagnostic or repair process thoroughly and complete each step. If the condition exhibited is resolved without completing every step, the remaining steps do not need to be performed.

GM bulletins are intended for use by professional technicians, NOT a "do-it-yourselfer". They are written to inform these technicians of conditions that may occur on some vehicles, or to provide information that could assist in the proper service of a vehicle. Properly trained technicians have the equipment, tools, safety instructions, and know-how to do a job properly and safely. If a condition is described, DO NOT assume that the bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle will have that condition. See your GM dealer for information on whether your vehicle may benefit from the information.



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