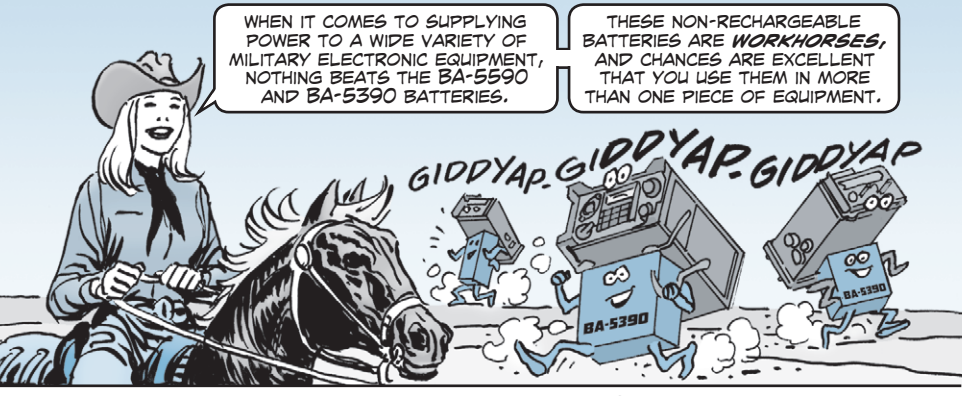
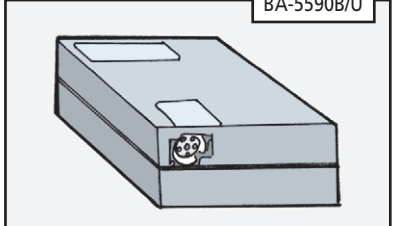
Non-Rechargeable Commo Batteries...

RIDE THESE WORKHORSES!



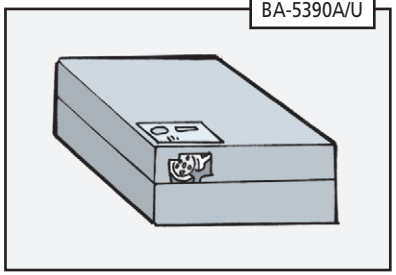
The BA-5590B/U, NSN 6135-01-438-9450, is a 12/24V, lithium sulfur dioxide battery. The BA-5590A/U, NSN 6130-01-523-3037, includes a state-of-charge (SOC) indicator.

BA-5590B/U



The BA-5390/U, NSN 6135-01-501-0833, is a 12/24V, lithium manganese dioxide battery. The BA-5390A/U, NSN 6135-01-517-6060, comes with a SOC indicator.

BA-5390A/U



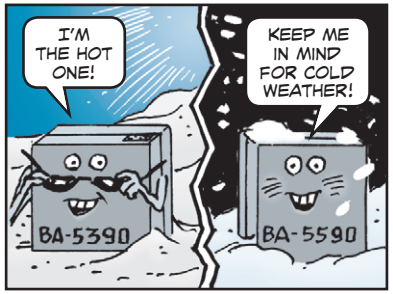
Cost is always an issue. All the batteries come in packages of four.

A 4-pack of the BA-5590B/U will cost you around $320. If you want the SOC indicator, look to pay around $45 more ($11.25 per battery).

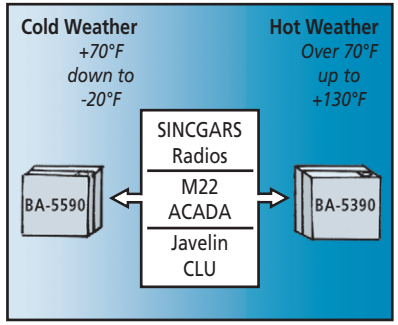
A 4-pack of the BA-5390/U will cost you around $490. Again, around $45 more will get you the model with the SOC indicator.

Even though the SOC indicator batteries cost more, they can save you money. Once used, you can tell how much energy remains in the battery. Without the SOC indicator, you'd have to replace the battery for each use, since you don't know what's left inside after the previous use.

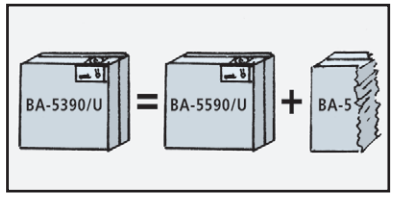
Another factor for consideration is how well the battery withstands **extreme temperatures.**



If operating conditions are really hot, the BA-5390 manganese battery is a better choice. If they're really cold, the BA-5590 sulfur battery is the way to go.



The BA-5390 has a higher **capacity,** which means it lasts longer than the BA-5590. In watt hours, a BA-5590 has around 185, whereas a BA-5390 has around 250.



A consideration you have little control over, but certainly one you must face, is the **supply** of these batteries. With their many uses, the demand is high and the stocks often run low. If your request for one type of battery comes back with a 6-week wait to be filled and another type can be filled in six days, your choice may have been made for you.

All that being said, it might not be a bad idea to keep all four types on hand—or at least both types with an SOC indicator.

Keep this article with the batteries in storage so that users can know there is a difference and pick the right one for the mission. A long mission through a valley that is hotter than blue blazes would make the BA-5390 a better choice, while a shorter mission on a cold mountain would make the BA-5590 a good candidate for the job.

To save **lots** of money, consider the use of rechargeable batteries. The BB-2590/U, NSN 6140-01-490-4316, has nearly the same energy as a BA-5590B/U, built-in SOC indicators, and can last up to 220 cycles. That's one BB-2590/U battery ($313) instead of 220 BA-5590B/U batteries ($17,600).