

If you use the Soldier portable charger, PP-8498/U, NSN 6130-01-495-2839; the vehicle-mounted charger, PP-8481B/U, NSN 6130-01-527-2726; or the charger-on-the-move, PP-8481A/U, NSN 6130-01-494-9164; you absolutely, positively must have the latest and greatest software installed. If you don't, and you attempt to recharge an old lithium-ion rechargeable battery, your charger could go up in flames!

To prevent a fire from happening, examine the program label on each charger in your commo shop **right now** to determine the software revision level. On the Soldier portable charger, PP-8498/U, the program label is between ports one and two. On the vehicle-mounted charger, PP-8481B/U, the program label is inside the cover next to the window.

On the PP-8498/U, the software level should be H. On the PP-8481B/U, the software level should be C.

What about the charger-on-the-move, PP-8481A/U? This charger is no longer supported with software upgrades. If you must use this charger with old lithium-ion batteries, you must constantly monitor the charging process.

If your inspection of the PP-8498/U or the PP-8481B/U shows that a software upgrade is needed, go to this website:

<https://www.monmouth.army.mil/cecom/lrc/lrchq/power/rechargebat.html>

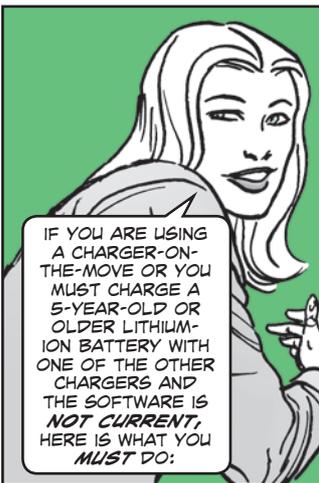
Once at the website, using a PC or laptop running Windows 95 or newer and using a USB to serial cable like NSN 6150-01-558-7214, you can download the latest software to your charger.

What is considered an old lithium-ion battery? There is no hard and fast rule, but if the battery is older than five years, it's old!

Here are some of the batteries that you need to check for old age:

Battery	NSN 6140-01-
BB-2001A/U	534-3856
BB-2557/U	490-5387
BB-2588/U	493-7623
BB-2600A/U	490-4311
BB-2800/U	490-5372
BB-2847A/U	493-8092

Equipment used in	NSN 6140-01-
AN/PRC-148	487-1153
AN/PRC-152	548-7566
AN/PRC-153	548-7367



1. Charge no more than two batteries at a time. In the Soldier-portable charger, both batteries can be in Port One. In the vehicle-mounted charger, one battery in adapter A and one in adapter B is permitted.
2. Install the batteries in the charger and then turn it on. (The charger should be off during the installation of the batteries.) Let the charger run for 30 minutes.
3. After 30 minutes, observe the charger indicator lights. If the light is a solid amber, things are going well. Let the charge continue until the light turns green, indicating the battery is fully charged. However, if after 30 minutes of charging, the indicator light is red, blinking amber or no light at all, the battery is defective. Remove it and properly dispose of it!
4. Remember, this is only a temporary solution (except for the charger-on-the-move). The permanent solution is to upgrade the software.

