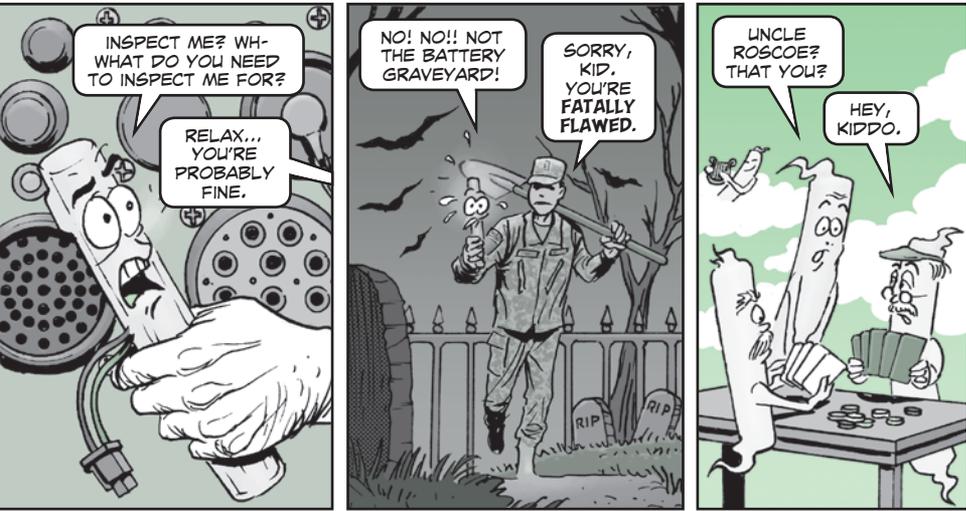


RADAR TRANSPONDER BATTERY HAS ISSUES!



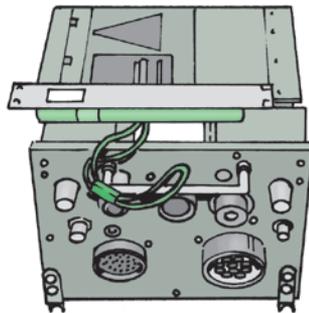
Mechanics, on Pages 38-39 of PS 698 (Jan 11), we told you to order the new Army battery assembly, NSN 6135-01-529-0122, for the AN/APX-118 and AN/APX-123 common transponder.

Since then, the CECOM headshed has issued a general aviation maintenance action message (GEN-13-AMAM-01) that says some of these batteries have reversed polarity on the battery connector. That's not good.

If a reversed polarity battery is installed in either transponder, NSN 5895-01-504-0407 or NSN 5895-01-539-9151, the negative voltage will cause permanent damage. The negative voltage will also damage the internal circuitry used for Identification Friend or Foe (IFF). Those damaged components cost \$15K to replace.

The AMAM requires an inspection of all batteries in stock. The batteries that need inspection are from Lot WO#160294997 and were manufactured on 17 Aug 12. However, all battery assemblies in stock prior to 19 Nov 12 should be checked for reverse polarity just to be safe. All batteries manufactured on or after 19 Nov 2012 were inspected and should be OK.

Check all transponder batteries for proper wiring

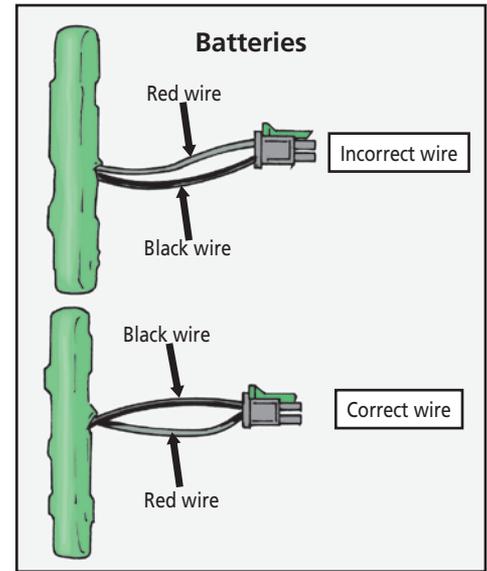


When you check the battery assembly wire lead, the black wire should be connected to the raised clip key guide side of the connector. If it isn't, the battery is no good. Don't try to repair the battery assembly because it can't be fixed.

For all the specific technical instructions on proper handling and disposal of bad transponder batteries and other affected equipment, check out the good word in GEN-13-AMAM-01. It'll tell you how to get your equipment back in shape and get a good replacement battery. You can find the message on the JTDI website:

<https://wry.jtdi.mil>

Once there, click on the [128th](#) tab and then look under the 128th Related Links column on the left-hand side of the screen. Click on [AMCOM Safety and Maintenance Messages](#), then log in to the site with AKO or your CAC and click on the Aviation tab.



NEW MICROCLIMATE COOLING VESTS AVAILABLE!

ON PAGE 39 OF PS 683 (OCT 09), WE TOLD YOU HOW TO WEAR THE MICROCLIMATE COOLING GARMENT (MCG).

THAT INFORMATION STILL STANDS.

BUT NOW YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT THERE IS A **THIRD** GENERATION COOLING VEST AVAILABLE.

THE VEST ITSELF HAS NOT CHANGED, BUT IT NOW COMES WITH A NEW CONNECTOR THAT HOOKS TO THE AIRCRAFT.

HERE ARE THE NSN AND SIZES...



NSN 8415-	Size
01-589-4597	Small
01-589-4604	Medium
01-589-4614	Large