# Battery spill kit guide: #1523 M.A.R.S.

## 1. Why battery spills can be dangerous

• Batteries contain acid. This substance is a corrosive, colorless liquid that will burn your eyes, skin, and clothing.

## 2. What to do if chemicals are...

- Inhalation: Exposure to contents of an open or damaged battery: Move injured person into fresh air and keep person calm under observation. Get medical attention if any discomfort continues.
- **Skin contact:** Immediately flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.
- **Eye contact:** Flush thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. Hold eyelids open during flushing. If irritation persists, repeat flushing. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.
- **Ingestion:** Exposure to contents of an open or damaged battery: Rinse mouth thoroughly with water. DO NOT induce vomiting because of the danger of aspirating liquid into lungs. Get medical attention immediately.

## 3. How to Identify a damaged battery

- Periodically inspect your battery for any evidence of damage, such as a cracked case or leaking electrolyte.
- Bent terminals can also be a potential leak source.
- Inspect the battery before and after each round of competition.
- · Says bad on the battery tester
- Or has strange liquid showing on the outside

# 4. What to when a battery is damaged

- If you are certain that the battery is leaking chemicals grab the battery spill kit immediately while trying to contact a mentor. Follow the below steps V.
  - 1. Put on the chemical resistant gloves and put on safety glasses.
  - 2. Dump out the materials inside the bucket, put the battery into the bucket, and put the lid back on.
  - 3. Use baking soda to neutralize the acid that did spill, more is better. Wait 30-60 seconds or until the baking soda stops fizzing for it to take effect.
  - 4. Clean the baking soda up with the dust pan from the bucket, and dump into the plastic bag.
  - 5. Apply a lighter amount of baking soda to the area of the spill and spread around with the brush. Wipe up the residue with a paper towel. Dispose in the trash bag.
  - 6. Apply more baking soda onto the brush and to any equipment that has come into contact with the acid, and shake it off in the trash bag.
  - 7. Open bucket, pour baking soda over battery and any acid, put lid back on bucket
  - 8. Take steps to identify the nearest authorized facility to dispose of the battery. Dispose of the trash bag of neutralized acid into the trash.