Spring Start Up

For a Conventional style battery (those with removable vent caps or strips):

• Check the electrolyte level in each cell.
The level of electrolyte must be maintained above the minimum and at or below the maximum level markings on the side of the battery. Check electrolyte levels only on a level surface. If the electrolyte level is below the minimum level mark, carefully add distilled water, avoiding overfill. Once the levels are adjusted, replace vent caps and charge the battery according to the requirements in the battery owner's manual. After adjusting the levels, make sure the filler plugs or vent strip are secured and the battery is free of dirt and corrosion. Note: If the electrolyte levels have fallen below the minimum level for an extended period of time, replacement may be required.

• Clean the battery.
Use a mixture of baking soda and water to neutralize any electrolyte that may be on the outside of the battery. Brush this solution on the battery and terminals using an old tooth brush and rinse with clean water. Dry the battery using a soft rag or paper towel and make sure the terminals are clean and free of corrosion. Clean terminals with a small wire brush or emery cloth if there is any corrosion. Make sure the vent tube is clear.

• Check the state of charge.
While the battery is not connected in any circuit, use a voltmeter to check the battery's open circuit voltage. See battery owner's manual for suggested voltage readings. If the voltage is below the specified reading or if electrolyte levels have been adjusted, a boost charge is required. Note: Although the battery may exhibit acceptable open circuit voltage, it may not be in the best state of health. Deterioration from corrosion or sulfation can cause diminished overall electrical capacity. To check for overall battery capacity, take the battery to a motorcycle service center for a capacity test. Most shops can perform a simple resistance test on the battery and ascertain the battery's overall state of health and advise whether or not the battery should be replaced or returned to service.

• Charge the battery.
Refer to the battery owner's manual for charging and stand times. Charge in a well ventilated area away from children and pets. An automatic taper type charger is always recommended for use on Powersports batteries. Never use a high current or fast charger for boost charging as permanent damage or personal injury could occur.

For a Premium AGM sealed maintenance-free battery:

• Electrolyte level is not serviceable. The battery is permanently sealed and must never be opened.

• Clean the battery.
Use a mixture of baking soda and water to neutralize any electrolyte that may be on the outside of the battery. Brush this solution on the battery and terminals using an old tooth brush and rinse with clean water. Dry the battery using a soft rag or paper towel and make sure the terminals are clean and free of corrosion. Clean the terminals with a small wire brush or emery cloth if there is any evidence of corrosion.

• Check the state of charge.
While the battery is not connected in any circuit, use a voltmeter to check the battery's open circuit voltage. See battery owner's manual for suggested voltage readings. If the voltage is below the specified reading, a boost charge is required. (See below).

Note: Although the battery may exhibit acceptable open circuit voltage, it may not be in the best state of health. Deterioration from corrosion or sulfation can cause diminished overall electrical capacity. To check for overall battery capacity, take the battery to a motorcycle service center and have a capacity test performed. Most shops can perform a simple resistance test on the battery and ascertain the battery's overall state of health and advise whether or not the battery should be replaced or returned to service.

• Charge the battery if needed.
Refer to the battery owner's manual for charging and stand times. To ensure maximum performance and service life of the battery, we recommended use of an Automatic Battery Charger/Maintainer designed to switch to float mode (once the battery has reached full state of charge) and maintain it there. This feature allows attachment of the charger to the battery for an extended period of time without concern for overcharging.