

Policies regarding the position of the battery master switch at the end of the day

Information compiled on April 10, 2008

The Question: Do you require the battery master switch be in the off position at the end of the work day?

Ben Franklin Transit says... We require battery switch shut down when vehicle is done for the day. Radio equipment and other electronics can draw down batteries severely over 8 hrs.

Columbia County Public Transportation says...We have just started discussing whether to do that or not and have not come up with a final decision. A couple of our new drivers were former school bus drivers and were required to turn them off at the end of the day which is what brought the topic to our attention.

Community Transit says...No.

Everett Transit says...No.

Intercity Transit says...No.

Kitsap Transit says...No we do not. If a vehicle is going to be worked on, there are instances where the battery switch will be turned off, as well as if a vehicle is going to be shut down for an extended period.

Link Transit says... Yes, Link Transit does!

Mason Transit says... In some instances we do however, we do not require the drivers to shut off all vehicles. If maintenance is being performed on any vehicle inside the shop, the batteries must be disconnected or turned off as safety precaution. If a vehicle is in an "out of Service" situation, it is then off as well.

Skagit Transit says...Yes on our Opus coaches only. All other no. the Opus coaches however drain the battery power down if not started every day and we normal only have 2 out of 3 coaches in service a day of that type.

Spokane Transit says... No, we do not.

Valley Transit says... Yes, part of the parking procedure is to turn off the master switch.

Yakima Transit says... The Fleet Maintenance Department strongly recommends that the battery master switch be turned to the off position at the end of the day. Practically, this becomes the responsibility of Operations and is followed inconsistently. I want it to be mandatory but, unfortunately, these people do not report to me and their supervisors don't share my concern.