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5 Pick-up tube is attached to a rubber hose; the tube goes directly into a media container while the other end of the hose is attached to the siphon gun.



6 Here Radford gets started but remember to wear proper eye protection (full face coverage is ideal), and thick gloves that cover your wrists and a portion of your forearms.



7 When you want to check an area to see what's underneath—be prepared. After blasting off the covering paint there were a number of trouble spots. When blasting it can uncover more work than you bargained for.



8 Soda blast media is ideal for more delicate work, such as removing paint without using chemicals and without damaging metal—especially very old metal, such as this Navarro head.

The kits were developed to work with typical at-home compressors; a unit able to generate at least 7 cfm at 80 psi, which most small home compressors should have no trouble maintaining.

BLASTING BASICS

We checked with the tech guys at Eastwood to get some tips on blasting; this is one of those projects where it's really important to get it right the first time. The two keys to successful abrasive blasting are a reliable supply of dry air and dry abrasive blasting media. The presence of moisture in the air supply

or blast media will freeze, causing a possible blockage in your abrasive blaster (siphon gun). Eastwood offers a moisture separator (PN 34103) suitable for this application. Ideally you want to install the water separator away from the air compressor to allow the air to cool, condensing the water vapor, which will be better captured with the separator. Too many rodders install a water separator close to the air compressor's tank where the air is the hottest. The warm air carries the moisture as water vapor, which easily passes right through most water

separators. Something else to keep in mind, higher air pressure increases the cutting power and the speed of the job. Use no less than 5/16-inch inside diameter air hose, no longer than 50 feet, with no splices or other restrictions.

As with any project, always make sure to wear the proper safety gear, eye protection, and better yet a full face shield along with long heavy-duty gloves. Also, make sure to activate the siphon gun at an angle so that the abrasive moves away from you and not bounce back onto yourself.

PulseTech Offers you More Than one way to Charge More Than one Battery

If one is good, more must be better, and so goes the mantra hot rodders live by. It really is surprising to find out just how many projects we hot rodders have, but what's truly amazing to find out is just how many batteries all of us try to keep charged. Not all of these batteries are exclusively in cars; remember we have motorcycles and a various assortment of other battery digesting projects. (Throw in my tractor, two old trucks, and one running hot rod and I look like a battery service station.)

According to PulseTech, the average lead acid battery lifespan can range from as little as six months to 48 months, however, only 30 percent of the batteries

sold today will ever see their third birthday. Extremes of heat and cold, parasitic drains for onboard electronics, and just poor maintenance are the main reasons for subpar performance and early onset battery failure. One way to get the most out of your battery is to properly engage maintenance charging and by doing so you can greatly extend your battery's lifespan up to five times normal performance.

Having a garage full of chargers can become both expensive and cumbersome so we have PulseTech to thank for coming up with a handy Xtreme Charge 12V Battery Maintenance Charger (\$99.95) and the QuadLink (\$99.95). Couple these two devices and you can properly maintain four individual batteries—simultaneously.

XC100-P XTREME CHARGE

The XC100-P Xtreme Charge (PN 100X010) will evaluate and test 12V lead-acid batteries: VRLA, AGM, or flooded. It's an ideal tool for both charging and maintaining a battery. It's true plug-and-go technology; you don't need to select the battery type or the proper charge rate for your battery



1 An ideal charging/maintenance system for your various battery needs is the Xtreme Charger coupled with the QuadLink four-channel battery charger multiplier; works on 6V or 12V systems.

2 The Xtreme Charge Battery Charger & Desulfator evaluates and tests 12V lead-acid batteries—VRLA, AGM or flooded.



3

3 The QuadLink is one of the better ideas to come along for the home shop where multiple batteries (up to four) need to be maintained. Compatible with all chargers that use the standard two-pin power output connector.

to avoid the risk of unsafe or improper charging. There's no guesswork because the fuse-protected, spark-proof Xtreme Charge works on any type of 12V lead-acid battery.

The quick disconnect feature allows you to permanently attach lugs to the battery and easily switch between lugs and clamps. The status light column shows you when the unit power is on, pulsing, and charging. The battery light column indicates the percentage of the battery's state of charge; 25, 50, 75, or 100 percent.

QUADLINK

Their creation is the QuadLink (PN 100X004 and Model No. XC-QL4), a four-way switcher that turns any brand



4

4 Connections can be made using the common quick-connect clips (alligator clips) to attach to battery terminals but the QuadLink comes with "leave-on" eyelet lugs that remain in place on battery terminals when not in use. These also come with a 7.5-amp fuse protected.

6V or 12V DC battery maintenance charger up to 8 amps (using the standard two-prong output connector) into a four-station battery maintenance charger, automatically splitting and distributing all of the maintenance charger's capabilities into 10-minute sequencing charge segments. QuadLink comes with necessary hardware that will allow you to hook up to four batteries via permanent eyelet lugs. (Should you have the common alligator clip leads they will work as well.) It also has four, 5-foot extension leads; there are optional 5- and 25-foot extensions.

With the QuadLink there's no longer a reason to use multiple battery maintenance chargers on vehicles or



5

5 The QuadLink has four ends for up to four batteries. Green LED lights tell you which battery is being charged and if you use less than the four connections the device automatically adapts to the number of batteries connected.

batteries in storage. Since most battery maintenance chargers are in float mode 95 percent of the time, QuadLink's unique ability to switch back and forth between batteries allows a single battery maintenance charger the ability to charge and maintain up to four batteries. It's a simple plug-and-go application with a microprocessor that automatically adapts to the number of batteries actually connected.

It doesn't get much easier than this. Around my shop I've found that pulling batteries from their normal resting place and putting them on workbench and then hooking up the QuadLink is another ideal and easy way to maintain charge on multiple batteries.



◆ The tubular-shaped Snap-on light has a high-impact tube lens, a rubber molded grip, and a magnetic base. It's affordable (\$9.99) and is ideally suited for portable use in your hot rod or as a toolbox accessory.

Snap-on Offers More Light on the Subject

All of us at one time or another find ourselves cursing the dark—well no more as Snap-on offers an assortment of handy garage lights, and one in particular is both handy and affordable.

The latest portable light source from Snap-on is the LED Hybrid Light that features 16 LEDs, is portable, battery-powered, and affordable (PN 92421, \$9.99), and available by calling the Snap-on phone number (listed on page 146).

Powered by three AAA batteries, the hybrid light functions

not only as a head beam flashlight, but its body projects 360-degree illumination as well from its water-resistant tubular case that features a magnetic base so that it can be attached to underhood or undercar metal.

In our experience with this light we would have liked having the based equipped with a more "powerful" magnet. Other Snap-on magnetic base lights have a noticeable "gripping" power that makes them ideal when working under the hood or under the car. This hybrid light gives off ample amount of light from the beam head and from the body but we would have been even more desirable with a stronger magnetic base. Still, a handy glovebox accessory or bench top light to have around when more light is better. *SR*