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(54) Title: BATTERY CAPACITY INDICATOR

(57) Abstract

This invention is a battery monitor and battery capacity indicator that uses a sense cell (22) in addition to the main battery (10) to determine main battery remaining capacity and depletion condition. A parameter of the sense cell is related to the main battery capacity so that the main battery will have a minimum capacity remaining when the sense cell parameter reaches a particular value or crosses a particular threshold. In a preferred embodiment, the sense cell (22) is a battery which is identical and of the same manufacturing lot as the battery cell or cells (20) in the main battery pack (10). A current is drawn from the sense cell that is larger than the current being drawn from the main battery. When the sense cell (22) is fully depleted, the main battery (10) will have a remaining capacity whose magnitude depends on the relationship between the main battery current and the sense cell current.



