

# Lester Electrical

## LESTRONIC II FULLY AUTOMATIC BATTERY CHARGER MODEL 16380

### Specifications

<b>AC Input:</b>	230 Volts AC, 50 Hertz, single-phase, 5 amps max.
<b>DC Output:</b>	36 Volts DC, 21 amps tapering to 6 @ 45 VDC
<b>Connections:</b>	8½ ft. DC Cord with connecting plug standard 6 ft. AC Cord
<b>Dimensions:</b>	8-3/4H X 8-11/16W X 10-1/4D
<b>Mounting:</b>	Set on shelf, wall mount with keyholes, or hang from ceiling securely

### PLEASE SAVE THESE IMPORTANT SAFETY AND OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

For correct operation of the equipment, it is important to read and be familiar with this entire manual before installing and operating the charger.  
**DO NOT DISCARD THIS MANUAL AFTER READING.**



**LOOK FOR THIS SYMBOL TO POINT OUT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS. IT MEANS: BECOME ALERT—YOUR SAFETY IS INVOLVED. IF YOU DO NOT FOLLOW THESE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS, INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE CAN OCCUR.**

### Features

- Patented electronic timer monitors battery state of charge and automatically turns charger off at full charge.
- Line voltage compensation achieved by flux oscillator circuit applied to battery charger for high reliability "Minute Man" missile standby applications. Compensates automatically for AC supply voltage variations. Supply voltage variation  $\pm 10\%$  from nominal  $\pm 1\%$  maximum battery voltage variation, decreasing to  $\pm \frac{1}{2}\%$  at finish rate with constant electrolyte temperature. No taps or rate controls to set.
- Automatic taper of charge rate for superior battery life through good equalization of cells and low water use rate.
- Silicon diodes with inherent surge protection operated at a conservative percentage of their rating.
- Convection-cooled design for maximum reliability and minimum maintenance.

### INTRODUCTION

The Lestronic II battery charger is designed to recharge deep-cycle, lead-acid batteries. A ferroresonant transformer is used to provide a highly reliable, line compensating unit with a minimum of moving parts, designed for long, trouble-free service.

A patented electronic timer turns the charger on and off automatically. This electronic timer determines full charge of the batteries by measuring the rate at which the battery voltage increases during charge. When the voltage stops rising, the battery is fully charged and the charger turns off.

## INITIAL INSTALLATION

The AC line to which the charger is to be connected must be capable of supplying 10 amperes to this charger.

**⚠ CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE, USE THIS CHARGER ONLY ON CIRCUITS PROVIDED WITH A MAXIMUM OF 20 AMPERE BRANCH CIRCUIT PROTECTION (CIRCUIT BREAKER OR FUSE), IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, ANSI/NFPA 70, AND ALL LOCAL CODES AND ORDINANCES.**

The use of an extension cord with the charger should be avoided. The use of an improper extension cord could result in a risk of a fire or electric shock. If an extension cord must be used, use a three-conductor, 14/3 (1.5mm) cord with ground, properly wired, in good electrical condition and keep it as short as possible. Make sure that the pins on the plug of the extension cord are the same number, size, and shape as that of the plug on the battery charger. Locate all cords so that they will not be stepped on, tripped over, or otherwise subjected to damage or stress.

Do not operate this charger if it has received a sharp blow, was dropped or otherwise damaged in any manner; refer to a qualified service agent.

Provide adequate ventilation for the batteries and charger. The convection-cooled design requires an unobstructed flow of cooling air for proper operation. Keep all charger ventilation openings at least two inches (2") (5cm) away from walls and other objects. Do not allow clothing, blankets, or other material to cover the charger.

**⚠ WARNING: CHARGERS CAN IGNITE FLAMMABLE MATERIALS AND VAPORS. DO NOT USE NEAR FUELS, GRAIN DUST, SOLVENTS, OR OTHER FLAMMABLES.**

**⚠ WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, KEEP CHARGER DRY. DO NOT EXPOSE IT TO RAIN. FOR STORAGE, KEEP THE CHARGER IN A BUILDING.**

## AC INPUT

**⚠ CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK OR FIRE, DISCONNECT POWER TO RECEPTACLE BEFORE INSTALLING OR REMOVING UNIT.**

This battery charger must be connected to a 230 VAC, 50 Hertz, single-phase AC power source and is factory-equipped with a specific electric cord. Have a proper plug installed on the AC cord to permit connection to an acceptable electric circuit.

Make sure the charger is connected to an outlet having the same configuration as the plug. No adapter should be used with this charger.

**⚠ DANGER: NEVER ALTER AC CORD OR PLUG IF IT WILL NOT FIT OUTLET. HAVE A PROPER OUTLET INSTALLED BY A QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN. IMPROPER CONNECTION CAN RESULT IN A RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK.**

## GROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS

Charger should be grounded to reduce risk of electric shock. Charger is equipped with an electric cord having an equipment-grounding conductor, green or green with yellow stripe(s). The installed plug must be plugged into an outlet that is properly installed and grounded in accordance with all local codes and ordinances.

**⚠ CAUTION: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, CONNECT BATTERY CHARGER DIRECTLY TO GROUNDING RECEPTACLE (3-PRONG). AN ADAPTER SHOULD NOT BE USED WITH BATTERY CHARGER.**

## NORMAL OPERATION

The instructions printed on the charger are for daily reference.

1. With the charger DC output cord disconnected from the batteries, connect the power supply cord to a 230 Volt, 50 Hertz outlet.

**⚠ WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, CONNECT ONLY TO A PROPERLY GROUNDING SINGLE PHASE (3-WIRE) OUTLET. REFER TO GROUNDING INSTRUCTIONS.**

**⚠ CAUTION: MAKE SURE THE BATTERY PACK IS A 36 VOLT, 18 CELL, SERIES CONNECTED LEAD-ACID SYSTEM WITH A CAPACITY OF 180 TO 250 AMPERE-HOURS (20 HR. RATING) OR 85 TO 110 MINUTES (BCI RATING). THE FINISH ON-CHARGE BATTERY VOLTAGE SHOULD BE 2.5 TO 2.6 VOLTS PER CELL. DAMAGE TO THE CHARGER AND BATTERIES MAY RESULT IF THIS CHARGER IS USED ON THE WRONG BATTERIES.**

**⚠ DANGER: RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK! DO NOT TOUCH UNINSULATED PARTS OF THE CHARGER OUTPUT CONNECTOR, BATTERY CONNECTOR, OR BATTERY TERMINALS.**

**⚠ DANGER: VISUALLY AND MANUALLY INSPECT TO VERIFY THE DC OUTPUT CORDSET, PLUG AND BATTERY CHARGING RECEPTACLE ARE IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION BEFORE EACH AND EVERY USE AND DO NOT USE THE CHARGER IF:**

- The DC output plug and/or charging receptacle feel hotter than normal.
- The DC output plug blades or receptacle contacts are bent, corroded or are dark or bluish in appearance.
- The DC output plug, cords, receptacle or equipment charging wiring are cut, worn, broken, or have any exposed conductors.
- The DC output plug, cords, charger or receptacles are damaged or distressed in any way.

Using the charger with any of the above symptoms could result in a fire, property damage, or personal injury.

Have your distributor, dealer or other qualified service agent repair or replace worn or damaged parts immediately. Repairs should not be attempted by people who are not qualified.

2. Connect the DC output plug to the battery receptacle by grasping the plug body or handle and pushing the plug straight into the receptacle. The charger will start automatically in three to five (3-5) seconds.

**⚠ WARNING: DO NOT DISCONNECT THE DC OUTPUT CORD FROM THE BATTERY RECEPTACLE WHEN THE CHARGER IS ON. THE RESULTING ARCING AND BURNING OF THE PLUG AND RECEPTACLE COULD CAUSE THE BATTERIES TO EXPLODE. IF THE CHARGER MUST BE STOPPED, FIRST DISCONNECT THE AC POWER SUPPLY CORD FROM ITS OUTLET, THEN DISCONNECT THE CHARGER DC OUTPUT PLUG FROM THE BATTERY RECEPTACLE.**

3. Monitor the ammeter for the correct charge rate. The initial charge rate will vary from 16 to 25 amperes depending upon the condition of the batteries and how much the batteries have been discharged.

Slight variations in the initial charge rate may also result from AC input line voltages which are higher or lower than nominal. Higher line

voltages increase the initial charge rate while lower line voltages reduce the charge rate.

If the batteries are heavily discharged and the AC input line voltage is higher than nominal, the initial charge rate may exceed 25 amperes. Under normal conditions, the charge rate will taper to less than 25 amperes within 30 minutes. If the ammeter still reads 25 amperes or more after 30 minutes, turn the charger off by disconnecting the power supply cord from its outlet.

**⚠ CAUTION: TO PREVENT BATTERY DAMAGE, CHARGER OVERHEATING, AND TRANSFORMER BURNOUT, DO NOT ALLOW THE CHARGER TO OPERATE FOR MORE THAN 30 MINUTES WITH THE AMMETER READING IN EXCESS OF 25 AMPS. THIS IS MISUSE AND WILL CAUSE OVERHEATING AND TRANSFORMER BURNOUT.**

During charge, the battery voltage increases gradually which causes the charge rate to decrease. Good battery cells should each rise to approximately 2.5 volts DC which will allow the charge rate to taper to less than 6 amps. Since each cell accepts charge at a slightly different rate, normal charging with the ammeter reading in the 4 to 8 amps area for the last few hours of charge is important to achieve equalization of all battery cells every time the batteries are charged.

As batteries age, individual cells weaken resulting in lower than normal finish charge voltage. As the finish charge voltage decreases, the charge rate will no longer decrease and taper into the 4 to 8 amps range on the ammeter. The electronic timer will, however, still determine when the batteries have reached full charge and turn the charger off. Even though they are properly charged, older batteries will gradually lose capacity, and should be replaced when they will no longer perform as required.

The charger turns off automatically when the batteries reach full charge. The necessary charge time is affected by numerous factors. The major factors affecting the required charge time are battery amp-hour capacity, depth of discharge, battery temperature and if the battery is new or broken in. Refer to the chart below.

APPROXIMATE CHARGE TIME FOR TYPE 36LC21-6ET BATTERY CHARGERS				
Battery Capacity 20 Hr. Rate	Normal Recharge Time	Additional Charge Time (Hours)		
		Over 80% Discharged	Below 65°F (18°C)	Less than 60 Cycles on Batteries
180 A-Hr	11 hours	1 hour	1 to 3	1 to 3
220 A-hr	12 hours	2 hours	1 to 4	1 to 4
230 A-hr	13 hours	3 hours	2 to 4	2 to 4

**⚠ WARNING: DO NOT LEAVE THE CHARGER DC OUTPUT CONNECTOR CONNECTED TO THE BATTERY CHARGING RECEPTACLE WHILE UNATTENDED FOR TWO DAYS OR MORE IN A ROW. SEVERE OVERCHARGING AND POSSIBLE DAMAGE TO THE BATTERIES WILL RESULT IF THE CHARGER ELECTRONIC TIMER KIT SHOULD FAIL AND NOT TURN OFF, OR TURN BACK ON.**

4. After the charger has turned off, disconnect the charger DC output plug from the battery receptacle by grasping the plug body or handle and pulling the plug straight out of the receptacle.

**⚠ WARNING: TO AVOID DAMAGE TO THE CHARGER CORD, PLUG, AND BATTERY RECEPTACLE, DO NOT PULL ON THE CHARGER CORD. DO NOT TWIST, ROCK, OR PULL THE PLUG SIDEWAYS.**

#### BATTERY STORAGE MAINTENANCE

When the machine is not in use, charge the batteries once each week. Disconnect the charger DC output cord at the end of the charge.

#### PROPER CARE OF DEEP CYCLE MOTIVE POWER BATTERIES

Motive power batteries are subjected to severe deep-cycle duty on a daily basis. Although these batteries are designed to withstand such duty, the following precautions must be observed to obtain good performance and maximum cycle life.

**⚠ CAUTION: ALWAYS WEAR PROTECTIVE EYE SHIELDS AND CLOTHING WHEN WORKING WITH BATTERIES. BATTERIES CONTAIN ACIDS WHICH CAN CAUSE BODILY HARM. DO NOT PUT WRENCHES OR OTHER METAL OBJECTS ACROSS THE BATTERY TERMINAL OR BATTERY TOP. ARCING OR EXPLOSION OF THE BATTERY CAN RESULT.**

1. When installing new batteries, be sure the polarity of each battery and overall battery pack is correct. Due to the electrical characteristics of this charger, it is possible to hook up the

batteries improperly and not blow the fuse when charging. Battery and/or charger damage can result.

2. New batteries should be given a full charge before their first use because it is difficult to know how long the batteries have been stored.
3. Limit the use of new batteries for the first 20 cycles. New batteries and older batteries that have been in storage are not capable of their rated output until they have been discharged and charged a number of times.
4. DO NOT EXCESSIVELY DISCHARGE THE BATTERIES. Excessive discharge can cause polarity reversal of individual cells resulting in complete failure shortly thereafter. Heavily discharging (over 60%) new batteries before they have been broken in (approximately 20 cycles) can cause permanent cell damage, resulting in reduced energy capacity and shortened life.
5. Maintain the proper electrolyte level by adding water when necessary. Distilled or deionized water is free of contaminants and preferred for this use. Never allow the electrolyte level to fall below the top of the battery plates. Electrolyte levels lower during discharge and rise during charge. Therefore, to prevent the overflow of electrolyte when charging, it is mandatory that water be added to cells AFTER they have been fully charged; do not overfill. Old batteries require more frequent additions of water than do new batteries.
6. Hard crystalline sulfates form when batteries in storage are not maintained in a charged active state. Internal self-discharge can bring about the start of this condition in as little as three days in warm temperatures. Batteries allowed to sit unmaintained in storage will self-discharge, sulfate to various degrees and lose capacity. Repeated charging without using the batteries between charges can recover some of the lost power, range, and life, but some permanent loss should be expected.
7. When the temperature falls below 65°F, the batteries should be placed on charge as soon after use as possible. Cold batteries require more time to fully recharge.

8. The tops of the batteries and battery hold-downs must be kept clean and dry at all times to prevent excessive self-discharge and flow of current between the battery posts and frame. Electrolyte spilled on the batteries never dries or evaporates.
9. All connections to batteries that are bolted must be maintained clean and bright. Due to heating and discharge rates, bolted connections loosen over time. Retighten the connections twice yearly to the manufacturer's specified torque.
10. Follow all operating instructions, cautions, and warnings as specified in this manual, on the charger, and in your vehicle owner manual.

## TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

To be able to troubleshoot safely and effectively, it is important to read this guide completely before beginning any tests.

**⚠ CAUTION: DO NOT DISASSEMBLE THE CHARGER. TAKE IT TO A QUALIFIED SERVICE AGENT WHEN SERVICE OR REPAIR IS REQUIRED. INCORRECT REASSEMBLY MAY RESULT IN RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK OF FIRE. THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES ARE INTENDED ONLY TO DETERMINE IF A MALFUNCTION MAY EXIST IN THE CHARGER.**

**⚠ DANGER: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, ALWAYS DISCONNECT BOTH THE POWER SUPPLY CORD AND THE OUTPUT CORD BEFORE ATTEMPTING ANY MAINTENANCE OR CLEANING.**

**⚠ WARNING: DO NOT OPERATE THE CHARGER IF IT IS MALFUNCTIONING. PERSONAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE COULD RESULT.**

To determine if a charger malfunction exists, identify the problem from the following list and refer to the appropriate section for detailed instructions.

1. CHARGER DOES NOT TURN ON
2. CHARGER FUSE BLOWS
3. THE AMMETER NEEDLE REMAINS AT 25 AMPS OR HIGHER FOR MORE THAN ONE-HALF (½) HOUR
4. CHARGER DOES NOT TURN OFF
5. THE BUILDING AC LINE CIRCUIT BREAKER OR FUSE BLOWS

If the problem is other than listed above, refer to a qualified service agent for additional troubleshooting procedures.

### 1. CHARGER DOES NOT TURN ON

The DC plug must be disconnected and reconnected to start the charger after turn off.

Connect the power supply cord securely to a live AC outlet. Visually inspect the DC output plug and battery receptacle to be sure they are in good working condition.

**⚠ WARNING: IF THE PLUG OR RECEPTACLE IS BROKEN, TWISTED, BENT OR LOOSE AND DOES NOT MAKE GOOD ELECTRICAL CONTACT, HAVE IT REPLACED BY A QUALIFIED SERVICE AGENT IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT USE THIS CHARGER IN THIS CONDITION AS FIRE OR PERSONAL INJURY CAN RESULT.**

If the plug and receptacle are good, connect the DC plug into the receptacle and listen for the power relay inside the charger to "click" on within five seconds. If the "click" is not heard, remove the DC plug from the receptacle and connect the DC plug of another charger, which you know is operating properly, to the receptacle.

If still no "click" is heard, a malfunction in the batteries or receptacle wiring exists. If the "click" is heard, the batteries and receptacle are good, and a malfunction exists in the original charger.

If the relay "click" is heard, a hum from the transformer should be heard and the ammeter should indicate the charge rate. If no transformer hum is heard, check to be sure the AC power supply cord is securely connected to a live AC outlet. When three-prong to two-prong adapters are used, they tend to work loose resulting in a poor connection. Check the AC line fuse or circuit breaker and, if possible, connect a functioning charger, utility light, or other electrical appliance to the outlet to verify the presence of AC power. If AC power is present, and still no transformer hum is heard, the charger is malfunctioning. If the relay "clicks" and the transformer hums, but no charge rate is indicated on the ammeter, the charger is malfunctioning.

### 2. CHARGER FUSE BLOWS

The charger fuse assembly consists of a double ended fuse wire visible through a transparent cover mounted on the front panel. Each half of the fuse wire serves as an individual fuse link which protects the charger in the event one or both rectifier diodes fail, or a reverse polarity connection is made to the batteries.

Check the fuse assembly visually for an open or blown fuse link. If both half links of the fuse assembly blow as soon as the DC output plug is connected to the battery receptacle, the polarity of the batteries may be reversed. If no battery or receptacle maintenance has been performed prior to

the fuse blowing, the charger is malfunctioning. If only one half link blows, the charge rate will be low and the charger is malfunctioning.

**⚠ CAUTION: DO NOT USE THE CHARGER IF THE OUTPUT IS LOW. BATTERIES WILL NOT REACH FULL CHARGE, THEREBY INCREASING THE POSSIBILITY OF A HARMFUL DEEP DISCHARGE DURING THEIR NEXT USE.**

3. AMMETER NEEDLE REMAINS AT 25 AMPS OR HIGHER FOR MORE THAN ONE-HALF (½) HOUR

This high charge rate is caused by misuse. The charger is connected to a battery pack with a system voltage lower than or amp-hour capacity greater than specified on the charger. If connected to a 12, 18, 24, 30, 32 or other battery system less than 36 volts, the charge rate will not taper and decrease to 25 amps or less within 30 minutes. If battery maintenance has recently been performed, a possible error is to install one or more of the 6 volt batteries in the battery pack of reverse polarity. Have a qualified service agent inspect the

connecting of the batteries and test the system voltage with a suitable voltmeter.

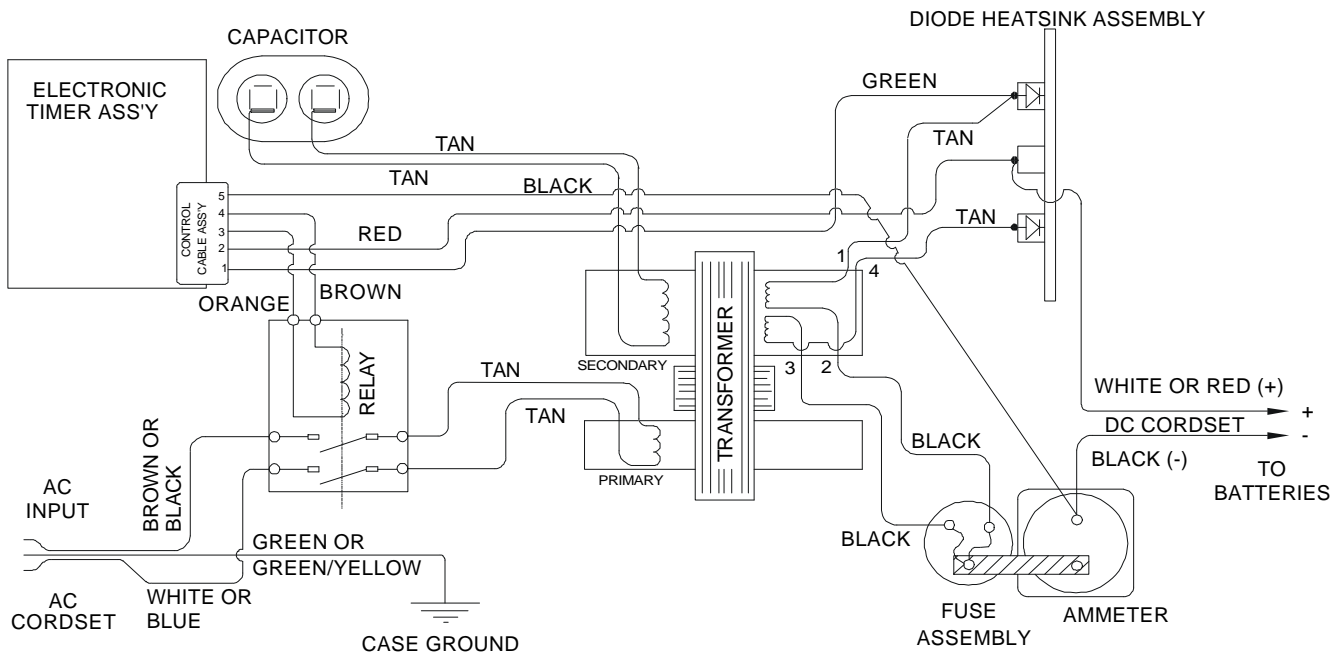
4. THE CHARGER DOES NOT TURN OFF

New batteries or batteries charged in cold temperatures may require an extended charge time to achieve full charge. However, if the charger runs for more than 18 hours without shutting off, the charger is malfunctioning.

5. THE BUILDING AC LINE CIRCUIT BREAKER OR FUSE BLOWS

This condition can be caused by a charger problem, a "weak" fuse or circuit breaker protecting the circuit, or an overloaded circuit. If the building AC power fuse or circuit breaker blows, connect the charger to other outlets (on different circuits) in the building. If the charger operates properly on other circuits have a qualified electrician inspect and test the original circuit. If the charger causes other fuses or circuit breakers (in the building) to blow, the charger should be tested for a problem.

## WIRING DIAGRAM



L2230S20

## REPLACEMENT PARTS SERVICE PARTS - MODEL 16380

PART NO.	QTY.	DESCRIPTION
21251S	1	CASE ASSEMBLY
21252S	1	TRANSFORMER ASSEMBLY
08776S	1	FUSE ASSEMBLY
16390S	1	ELECTRONIC TIMER ASSEMBLY
16324S	1	CONTROL CABLE ASSEMBLY
16354S	1	HEATSINK ASSEMBLY W/ DIODES
16369S	1	AMMETER, 30 AMP, CORNER MOUNT
02028S	1	BUSHING, 7W-2, INSULATOR FOR DC CORD
03894S	1	BUSHING, 7K-2, INSULATOR FOR AC CORD
02804S	1	RELAY, 36 VDC, DPST, 15 AMP
04142S	1	CAPACITOR, 3.0 MFD, 660 VAC
19989S	1	CORDSET, AC, NO PLUG
08607S	1	CORDSET, DC, 108", SB50 PLUG
08224S	1	CORDSET, DC, 108", SB175 GRAY
01427	1	OPERATION AND REPAIR MANUAL

## **LIMITED WARRANTY**

Lester Electrical warrants each new Lester Battery Charger for defects in material and workmanship for a period of two (2) years from the date of manufacture of the complete unit. Repairs can be made at the Lester factory. To do so, first obtain a "Return Material Authorization" number by calling the Service Department of Lester Electrical (402 477-8988) or by e-mailing [service@lesterelectrical.com](mailto:service@lesterelectrical.com) and send the defective unit with transportation charges prepaid to:

**Lester Electrical**  
**625 West A Street**  
**Lincoln, NE 68522-1794 USA**  
**Attention: Service Department**  
**RMA # \_\_\_\_\_**

If the unit or parts are found in the reasonable judgment of Lester to be defective in material or workmanship, repair or replacement will be made by Lester without charge for parts or labor. Repair or replacement will be at the discretion of Lester, with replacements being made using current models or parts performing the equivalent function. Labor charges other than those incurred at the Lester factory are not covered under this warranty. All expenses associated with delivering defective items to the Lester factory and the expense of returning repaired or replaced items from the Lester factory to the owner will be paid for by the owner. All warranty work accomplished at the Lester factory will be completed with a reasonable time after receipt of defective items.

This warranty does not cover any semiconductor parts, such as diodes, which are vulnerable to electrical overloads beyond the control of Lester. Warranty on parts not manufactured by Lester, which include, but are not limited to, timers and ammeters, is limited to the period specified in the original manufacturer's warranty.

This warranty does not cover any charger that has been subject to misuse, neglect, negligence, or accident, or operated in any way contrary to instructions specified on the charger case and in the owner's manual. No claim of breach of warranty shall be cause for cancellation of the contract of sale of any Lester charger. Lester assumes no responsibility for loss of time, inconvenience, or other damage, consequential or otherwise, resulting from a defective charger. All implied warranties (including merchantability) are limited in duration to the two years from date of manufacture warranty period.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages; or limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Lester's obligation under this warranty is strictly and exclusively limited to the repair or replacement of defective items. Lester issues this warranty in good faith and with full confidence in the workmanship and quality of Lester products.