

Vinnie's Advisory Tips - Light and Motion Sola Internal Charger Models 2500, 3000,3800

Intelligent Processor Controlled.

First thing to know is that your Sola light is an intelligent processor controlled light. Your light is never completely powered off, very much like putting your TV in standby mode, the light's processor is powered continuously.

Your Sola light is fitted with a Lithium battery and charged via a two amp power adapter. This means the charger controller circuit is inside the light. If the light is stored in a discharged state for an extended period of time then the residual battery level may drop below the required level to allow the charger circuit to operate. In this case the light will need to be returned so the battery can be jump started.

On/Off Switch.

Your Sola light is switched on or off by a magnet passing across a sensor inside the light. The circuit board is inside a watertight compartment but the switch magnet is not. If your Sola light is not washed in fresh water after use the switch magnet may corrode. In this case the light will need to be returned so the switch and magnet can be replaced.

Best Practise.

After washing in fresh water and drying your light, fully recharge after use and charge every few months during storage. Please ensure your light is dry before charging. If water gets on the charging terminals then these will show signs of discolouration. Terminals can be cleaned using wire wool gentle rolled in the terminals. I use jewellery cleaner solution with wire wool but vinegar is also an option.

Travel Lock Mode.

For travel and safety reasons your light can be entered into Travel Lock Mode. In this mode the light can NOT be turn on.

To select or deselect this mode push and hold the On/Off switch forward for four seconds.

Entering Travel Lock Mode the dash board LEDs flash red three times.

Exiting Travel Lock Mode the dash board LEDs flash green three times.

IF WHEN SWITCHING ON YOUR LIGHT IT DOES NOT TURN ON and the dash board LEDs flash red three times then please check Travel Lock Mode is not active.

Dash Board LEDs.

Your Sola light is fitted with three dash board LEDs.

The LEDs will display Off, Red, Amber, Green.

Actually the LEDs are only two colours Red and Green. Amber is made up of Red and Green. Sometimes especially in water Amber can be mistaken for Red.

Lithium Battery Recharging.

Dash board LEDs on your Sola light will give you a clue as to how the charging is progressing.

Flashing red LEDs indicates that your light is charging under one third charged.

Flashing amber LEDs indicates that your light is charging under two thirds charged.

Flashing green LEDs indicates that your light is charging over two thirds charged.

Solid green middle LED indicates your light is fully charged.

Please note leaving your light charging when the middle dash board LED is solid green will NOT charge the light any more (safety first, it is a bad idea to over charge lithium batteries)

Lithium Battery Life.

The lithium battery life is around 500 cycles. One cycle being fully discharged to fully recharged. So with lithium batteries you do NOT need to drain the battery down before recharging. If you have only used half the battery power and then recharge then this equates to half of one cycle.

Charging Interruptions.

Power interruptions during the charging sequence may confuse the processor and dash board LEDs. Maybe when charging in a hotel room, the power is disconnected and reconnected when entering or exiting the room. Maybe on a live aboard when the power is supplied by the engine then switched to a generator or maybe to a shore supply.

Anyway, if you feel the dash board LEDs are not working correctly the best option is to cycle the battery. Leave the light on in a bucket of water at full power. When the light goes out, wait a short period of time and switch the light back on using the lowest setting. You can repeat this process a few time. Then fully recharge the battery without power interruption.