U.S. Battery and Go CARTS are working together to support and help raise money for The Wounded Warrior Project in the World’s first attempt at driving an electric golf car across America, starting in Petaluma, CA and ending in Yorktown, VA.
U.S. Coast Guard members are accustomed to traveling by sea and air, but in May of 2013, Chief Petty Officer Ray Rehberg, and other off-duty Coast Guard members will be driving a golf car powered by U.S. Battery US145 XC-2™ deep-cycle batteries 3,900 miles across the United States. The off-duty guardsmen formed a non-profit organization called GO CARTS, with the intent to complete the journey in order to raise money and awareness in support of the Wounded Warriors Project.

The trip will span across 11 states from California’s Pacific Coast to The U.S. Coast Guard training center in Yorktown, Virginia. To make it, the GO CARTS plan to average 25 miles per hour and 200 miles per day, requiring reliable power from the car’s 48-volt system. “Generally, golf cars are designed for short, stop and go distances,” says Don Wallace, U.S. Battery Executive VP, Sales and Marketing. “But because the GO CARTS team will be traveling almost nonstop, they’ll need the best deep-cycle golf car batteries they can get their hands on.”

When U.S. Battery was approached about this unique fundraiser, the company stepped in and donated 40 of its US145 XC-2™ deep-cycle batteries. Because the golf car requires eight batteries, U.S. Battery will supply the team with six sets that will be constantly recharged and ready to use when needed. The idea is to have a fresh set of fully charged batteries for the team to use at any given time throughout the day. “The US145 XC-2™ has the most useable run time and the ability to quickly cycle up to its rated capacity,” says Wallace. “Those are key factors to achieving the distances the GO CARTS team needs to complete each day of the journey. Most of our competitor’s comparable deep-cycle batteries take up to 125 cycles before they can hit their rated capacity. Our XC-2™ batteries require less than half that time.”

The team will be using a set of high-quality QuiQ™ industrial battery chargers donated by Delta-Q, that will be housed on-board the golf car, and a support vehicle, to provide the proper cycling and shortest amount of recharging time. “The primary concern is maximizing the state of charge and driving range,” says Fred Wehmeyer, Senior VP Engineering at U.S. Battery. “The GO CARTS team will be charging each set of batteries once they become discharged using the Delta-Q.

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charging algorithms that can take as few as 25 cycles for the batteries to reach their rated capacity.” The golf car that the GO CARTS team is using requires 75 amps from eight standard 6-volt batteries. “The average run time using standard batteries is 115 minutes, according to the golf car’s manufacturer’s specifications,” says Wehmeyer. “With our US145 XC-2™ batteries, the run time will average 154 minutes!”

According to Wallace, the reason for the greater run time and quicker recharging is the XC-2™ formulation, as it greatly improves the ability of the battery to accept a charge. “The formulation also lessens the internal resistance, by creating tiny and uniform tetrabasic crystals within the XC-2™ paste material,” he explains. “Another advantage to using our US145 XC-2™ 6-volt, deep-cycle battery, is that it has more space above the plates, allowing for more electrolyte to be used. Extra electrolyte reduces the frequency with which the GO CARTS team will need to add water to the batteries, saving them both time and money.”

For more information, contact U.S.Battery at 800-695-0945 or visit www.usbattery.com. Carting for a Cause is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds for the Wounded Warrior Project. For additional information and donations, visit www.cartingforacause.org.