# Solar, Battery and DC Systems Wiring and Connection Inspection Checklist - Abnormal Noise or Vibration

Solar, Battery and DC Systems | Abnormal Noise or Vibration | Asset ID FIX-24-05-05

**Safety gate: Stop, isolate and verify before exposure to hazardous energy. Lockout/Tagout and live testing require the applicable site procedure, authorised controls and a qualified person. Never bypass a guard, interlock or protective device to complete this workbook.**

## How to use this field resource

This is an equipment-agnostic documentation workbook for solar, battery and dc systems. It helps a trained team record source, storage, conversion, protection and load evidence across operating states. It does not identify a fault by itself and does not replace the equipment-specific OEM manual, drawings, limits, permits or a qualified technician's judgement.

| Intake field | Record |
|---|---|
| Asset or equipment ID | _____ |
| Site and location | _____ |
| Reported by / time | _____ |
| Fault situation | Abnormal Noise or Vibration |
| Operating state | Stopped / standby / starting / running / loaded |
| Safety owner | _____ |
| OEM reference used | Document number and revision: _____ |

## Evidence areas for this system

For a abnormal noise or vibration, focus on evidence that can be dated, repeated and handed to another technician. Capture the as-found state before clearing alarms, changing settings or disturbing connections.

| # | Evidence area | First record |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Array or source condition | As-found note: _____ |
| 2 | Battery state indication | As-found note: _____ |
| 3 | Converter or inverter event | As-found note: _____ |
| 4 | Dc protection state | As-found note: _____ |
| 5 | Load and energy-flow state | As-found note: _____ |
| 6 | Environment and time of day | As-found note: _____ |

## Wiring and Connection Inspection Checklist

Use this section to describe location, timing, frequency and load relationship without relying on a vague sound label. Record where it is strongest and which operating change affects it before choosing the next action.

| Circuit or area | Inspection boundary | Finding | Record |
|---|---|---|---|
| Array or source condition | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |
| Battery state indication | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |
| Converter or inverter event | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |
| Dc protection state | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |
| Load and energy-flow state | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |
| Environment and time of day | Accessible visual check only | Not checked / acceptable / concern | Location: _____ |

### Connection inspection boundary

- Identify every energy source before opening an enclosure.
- Do not unplug, tighten or probe an energised connection unless an approved procedure requires it.
- Photograph labels and routing without exposing private data.
- Record corrosion, damage, strain, contamination and prior repair separately.
- Restore covers, seals, guards and strain relief before release.

## Solar, Battery and DC Systems Evidence Map

**Evidence first: Preserve alarms, event history, settings, trends and the as-found physical state before reset, disconnection or adjustment. If safe access is uncertain, stop and refer the task to the authorised person.**

| # | System area | Evidence action | Trace | Record |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Array or source condition | Observe and identify | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |
| 2 | Battery state indication | Record source and time | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |
| 3 | Converter or inverter event | Compare with reference | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |
| 4 | Dc protection state | State what it supports | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |
| 5 | Load and energy-flow state | State what it rules out | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |
| 6 | Environment and time of day | Choose the least invasive next check | Evidence ID: _____ | Finding: _____ |

## Scenario boundary

For this abnormal noise or vibration, do not approach unguarded or unstable rotating equipment to improve an observation. Write the boundary before testing so urgency does not quietly change the rules.

| Boundary | Definition |
|---|---|
| Known good condition | _____ |
| Known failed condition | _____ |
| Difference between them | _____ |
| First missing evidence | _____ |
| Stop-work threshold | _____ |
| Escalation owner | _____ |

### Evidence labels

- FACT - directly observed and traceable.
- REPORT - supplied by another person; source recorded.
- INFERENCE - reasonable explanation that still needs a test.
- UNKNOWN - important gap that must not be filled by assumption.
- LIMIT - OEM, engineering or site acceptance value.

## Abnormal Noise or Vibration Condition Workbook

The goal is to describe location, timing, frequency and load relationship without relying on a vague sound label. Describe the failed state narrowly enough that another trained person could look for the same thing without being told your suspected cause.

| Question | Boundary prompt | Record |
|---|---|---|
| What changed? | Function, output, indication or behaviour | _____ |
| Where? | Asset, side, circuit, zone or process stage | _____ |
| When? | Sequence step, runtime, load or environment | _____ |
| How often? | Every cycle, random, once, or after delay | _____ |
| What restores it? | Nothing, time, reset, cooling or load change | _____ |
| What stays normal? | Unaffected systems or functions | _____ |
| What changed recently? | Work, software, settings, parts or operating duty | _____ |

## Controlled reproduction plan

| Plan field | Record |
|---|---|
| Safe starting state | _____ |
| One condition to vary | _____ |
| Conditions held constant | _____ |
| Evidence captured | Where it is strongest and which operating change affects it |
| Maximum attempts | _____ |
| Immediate stop signal | _____ |
| Authorising person | _____ |

### Attempt notes

| Attempt | Starting condition | Result | Decision |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | State: _____ | Observed: _____ | Next decision: _____ |
| 2 | State: _____ | Observed: _____ | Next decision: _____ |
| 3 | State: _____ | Observed: _____ | Next decision: _____ |
| 4 | State: _____ | Observed: _____ | Next decision: _____ |

## Measurement and Evidence Register

**Measurement boundary: This page records an approved test; it does not authorise one. A qualified person must choose the method, instrument category, connection points, isolation state and protective controls from the applicable procedure.**

| ID | Evidence area | Traceable source | Result | When |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Array or source condition | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |
| 2 | Battery state indication | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |
| 3 | Converter or inverter event | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |
| 4 | Dc protection state | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |
| 5 | Load and energy-flow state | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |
| 6 | Environment and time of day | Method / source: _____ | Value / state: _____ | Time: _____ |

## Instrument and reference record

| Control | Record |
|---|---|
| Instrument or data source | _____ |
| Identifier and range | _____ |
| Calibration / validation status | _____ |
| OEM or engineering reference | Document and revision: _____ |
| Equipment operating state | _____ |
| Uncertainty or limitation | _____ |

### Before using a value

- Check units, scale, timestamp and source identity.
- Keep raw evidence where practical; do not retain only a conclusion.
- Record values that disagree with the current theory.
- Compare only like operating conditions.
- Treat a single normal reading as one data point, not proof that an intermittent fault is absent.

## Cause and Evidence Matrix

List competing explanations before the team settles on one. A good next check separates hypotheses; a poor check produces the same answer no matter which cause is true.

| # | Hypothesis | Supporting | Contradicting | Discriminating check |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Array or source condition hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |
| 2 | Battery state indication hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |
| 3 | Converter or inverter event hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |
| 4 | Dc protection state hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |
| 5 | Load and energy-flow state hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |
| 6 | Environment and time of day hypothesis | For: _____ | Against: _____ | Next evidence: _____ |

## Five-why chain with evidence

| Level | Explanation | Proof or gap |
|---|---|---|
| Problem | Abnormal Noise or Vibration | Evidence ID: _____ |
| Why 1 | _____ | Evidence: _____ |
| Why 2 | _____ | Evidence: _____ |
| Why 3 | _____ | Evidence: _____ |
| Why 4 | _____ | Evidence: _____ |
| Why 5 | _____ | Evidence: _____ |

### Cause confidence

- Confirmed - reproduced or directly measured against a valid reference.
- Probable - best fit, but one meaningful alternative remains.
- Possible - plausible and worth a safe test.
- Unrelated - contradicted by the evidence.
- Unknown - evidence is missing or unreliable.

## Repair Decision and Return-to-Service Gate

**Release authority: Completion of a repair is not permission to energise or operate. Restore energy and return equipment to service only through the site's authorised process, with guards and protective functions reinstated.**

| Decision field | Record |
|---|---|
| Confirmed problem | _____ |
| Evidence-supported cause | _____ |
| Approved repair reference | Document and revision: _____ |
| Work completed | _____ |
| Parts / settings changed | _____ |
| Residual defect or restriction | _____ |
| Person completing / checking | _____ |

## Controlled verification

| Verification | Acceptance basis | Status |
|---|---|---|
| As-found symptom | Abnormal Noise or Vibration | Absent / present / not tested |
| Primary function | Array or source condition | Pass / fail / not tested |
| Related function | Battery state indication | Pass / fail / not tested |
| Protection and alarms | Normal protective state retained | Pass / fail / not tested |
| Leak, heat, noise or damage | No new adverse condition | Pass / fail / not tested |
| Recorded operating condition | Load / mode / duration: _____ | Accepted / restricted |

### Release signatures

- Technical check by: _____ Date/time: _____
- Operations acceptance by: _____ Date/time: _____
- Safety or permit close-out by: _____ Date/time: _____
- Follow-up owner and due date: _____

## Handover, Follow-Up and Prevention Plan

Close the record so the next shift can understand the abnormal noise or vibration, the evidence, the repair decision and any remaining restriction without relying on memory.

| Handover field | Record |
|---|---|
| Current equipment state | _____ |
| What was confirmed | _____ |
| What remains unknown | _____ |
| Operating restriction | _____ |
| Evidence location | Log / work order / folder: _____ |
| Next owner and action | _____ |
| Escalation trigger | _____ |

## Follow-up schedule

| When | Review | Record |
|---|---|---|
| Next shift | Confirm state and restriction | Owner: _____ Result: _____ |
| 24 hours | Review array or source condition | Owner: _____ Result: _____ |
| 7 days | Check for repeat events under comparable duty | Owner: _____ Result: _____ |
| 30 days | Review effectiveness and maintenance action | Owner: _____ Result: _____ |

### Prevention decision

- Update the task, limit, drawing or training only when the cause supports it.
- Remove any temporary control by its approved expiry point.
- Share the lesson without exposing private, security-sensitive or proprietary data.
- Record whether the action reduced repeat faults, downtime or diagnostic effort.
- Reopen the analysis if the symptom returns under the same conditions.

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