



## Programmer Application Note: Using the Battery Charger

Document applies to the following Data I/O Corporation Programmers: ChipWriter, ChipWriter Portable.

### Operating from Batteries

The ChipWriter and ChipWriter Portable can be operated from mains or batteries. To operate from batteries use 8 alkaline AA type cells. The battery cover is held in place with screws. When replacing the cover, take care to use only the screws provided.

**WARNING :** USE ONLY THE SCREWS PROVIDED TO FASTEN THE BATTERY COVER, & DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN THE SCREWS.

**NOTE:** Certain Bipolar devices require high currents in very short bursts and therefore some batteries may not always be able to handle these devices.

### Recharging the Batteries

The programmer can be used as a battery charger. In order to start recharging the batteries the programmer needs to be connected to a PC and connected to the mains using the mains adapter provided. When installing the programmer software, the BCHARGER.EXE file is installed by default. **This utility is ONLY available in DOS.**

To charge the batteries, the command is: BCHARGER

usage: BCHARGER [port] CHARGEMODE [REPORTMODE]

where:

port	parallel port to use (default = 1)
CHARGEMODE	TRICKLE/SLOW/FAST (default=slow)
REPORTMODE	START/REPORT (default=both)
START	starts the charging and does immediate return
REPORT	reports current stage of charging

When the batteries are charging the 'BUSY' LED on the programmer will flash red and yellow. Once charging is complete this LED will switch off.

Once recharging has commenced, the programmer can be disconnected from the PC. Charging will stop once the batteries have been fully charged. If the PC is switched off battery charging will be interrupted for a few seconds. Recharging will resume automatically. The programmer will power down once charging has stopped, and the firmware has detected that the unit is inactive.

**WARNING :** DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CHARGE NON-RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES