



EFRA Battery Homologation Officer  
Paul Worsley  
23, Prince Rupert Road  
Stourport-on-Severn  
Worcestershire, DY13 0AS. UK.

Mobile: +44 (0)7946 750010  
Home: +44 (0)1299 871137  
E-mail: paul.worsley@virgin.net

## EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF RADIO OPERATED MODEL AUTOMOBILES

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### HOMOLOGATION OF BATTERIES, FOR USE AT 2013 EFRA SANCTIONED EVENTS.

To whom it may concern,

NOTE: It was agreed at the EFRA AGM, Nov. 2011 that EFRA would no longer operate an Approval Procedure for the older technology NiCd and NiMH batteries. From 2012, EFRA will only approve Lithium based batteries. The procedures detailed in this document are subject to any changes that may be incorporated at the EFRA AGM on 3rd & 4th. Nov. 2012. (No proposals have been received to amend battery rules or approval procedure).

The scope of this document covers the homologation of the following battery technologies that are allowed for EFRA sanctioned events in 2013:-

Lithium Based Batteries up to a maximum nominal 7.40v (2S), in 'Stick' and 'Saddle Pack' format.

Lithium Based Batteries up to a maximum nominal 3.70v (1S), in 'Stick' format.

Previously approved batteries remain on the approved products list for their lifespan, or until EFRA deem they are no longer applicable.

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### Lithium Based Batteries (1S and 2S) – Approval requirements for use at 2013 EFRA events :-

1. A minimum of one (1) battery must be sent **at no cost to the recipient**, to the Homologation Officer at the address above. Any sample batteries arriving that require payment in any way for: Shipment, Delivery Taxes etc. **WILL BE REFUSED** and the date (if this occurs) will not be recorded or considered as an 'arrival date'.  
The sample battery(s): **MUST ARRIVE NO LATER THAN - 1st. Dec. 2012.**  
Batteries arriving after this date will not be considered for approval.  
Shipping documents should state: 'samples for destructive testing with zero value'.  
All samples received (inc. late submissions) will be retained by EFRA and will not be returned to the supplier.
2. Any battery that has gained approval in previous years, that has been changed in order to comply with any current technical requirements, will be treated as a new version of battery that will require approval. Batteries in this category are required to show a distinct visual difference to previous versions with a different Part #, so they can be easily identified.
3. Each individual type of battery submitted for approval must be accompanied by :-
  - A safety test certification in accordance with:-  
UN Manual of Test and Criteria ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5, Part 3, Sub-Section 38.3, Tests T1 to T8.
  - A data sheet giving:- recommended charging safety criteria and maximum charging amps and voltage. This sheet must also include safe disposal procedures.
  - A technical data sheet for each Battery Part #, giving specifications of :- sizes and weight with tolerances.
  - Details of :-case material, nominal thickness of case and sealing method (eg. Cyno, Sonic Weld etc.)
  - Name and contact details of a minimum of two (2) nominated distributors within the EFRA countries.
  - Confirmation that the battery submitted:-  
If a new production version: that it will be widely available in the EFRA countries before 1st March 2013.  
If already in production, approx. number that have already been supplied to EFRA countries.
  - A declaration stating that the submitted battery is not in any violation of existing World Wide patents.This information to be supplied by an authorised representative of the manufacturer and also applies to any OEM supplier versions.
4. All batteries must conform with the technical details in rules 3.1.1 and 3.2.1 (below), and any EU regulations regarding Health & Safety or Disposal instructions that are current at the time when cells are supplied to EFRA member countries.

5. The weights of batteries will be shown on the EFRA approval list. Samples should closely resemble the weight range stated on the data sheet. Maximum weight tolerance is +/- 4%.
6. If approval is granted, there must be no changes to the technical specification (outside allowed tolerances) or the visual appearance of the battery (including label details), from the samples submitted. Any changes will require re-approval. Failure to do this may invalidate the original approval.
7. There will be an homologation fee for each type of battery submitted. This is individual to each type (capacity) or labelled version. The fee is €500 for each type. There is a 50% discount for Associate Manufacturers to EFRA.. EFRA will invoice accordingly. Please supply details for invoicing.  
It is recommended that batteries submitted for approval should originate from the original cell manufacturer or the OEM supplier whose name or trade-mark is depicted on the battery label/heat shrink.
8. Batteries gaining EFRA approval, will be published on the EFRA approved list in Jan. 2013. This list can be found on the EFRA website – [www.efra.ws](http://www.efra.ws).
9. Approval does not engage EFRA towards any guarantees or responsibilities. The submitter will defend, indemnify and hold EFRA harmless from and against any and all liabilities, damages, losses, claims, fines, penalties, assessments, demands, actions, suits and judgments, including all fees, costs and expenses incidental thereto, that may be charged to, asserted against or incurred by EFRA by reason of any loss, damage or injury of any kind or nature whatsoever in any manner or to any extent resulting from or arising out of the articles or services approved by EFRA for use during EFRA events except to the extent resulting solely and directly from EFRA's gross negligence or wilful misconduct.
10. EFRA require that a copy of this document is returned when cells are submitted, signed by an authorised representative of the manufacturer (or OEM supplier) showing agreement to the procedures and rules detailed. (Disclaimer on page 3).

### **Technical Rule 3.1.1. --- Lithium Based Batteries.**

Lithium Based (LiPo/LiFe) Batteries can be approved, but must conform to the following :-

1. Lithium Based (LiPo/LiFe) battery packs must have a hard, protective case that completely envelopes the cell(s). The case should be made from ABS or a similar material. The two halves of the case must be factory sealed in a way that any attempt to open the case will destroy the case. The only opening in the case that is allowed, is for the exit of wires or pin type connections. Batteries to comply with the weights specified on the EFRA homologation list, (maximum tolerance for manufacturers is +/- 4%).  
The maximum case sizes are as follows: -
  - 2S Batteries.**  
Length: 139.0mm.  
Width: 47.0mm. (The max. width includes any side exit wires).  
Height: 25.1mm. (Chassis location features additional to this dimension are allowed)  
Saddle-Pack cells are allowed, but must comply with the above dimensions. Saddle-Pack cells must have a combined dimension of 139.0mm max. when placed end to end.
  - 1S Batteries.**  
Length: 93.0mm.  
Width: 47.0mm. (Side exit wires are allowed outside this dimension).  
Height: 18.5mm. (Chassis location features additional to this dimension are allowed)
2. Individual cells used in the construction of the battery pack shall be rated at (LiPo 3.7v/LiFe 3,3v) nominal. Individual cells may be wired in parallel.  
For 2S Packs:- the maximum connection 'In Series' is two, to give a Final pack voltage of (LiPo 7.4v/LiFe 6.6v) nominal.  
For 1S Packs:- cells can only be connected in parallel to give a Final pack voltage of (LiPo 3.7v/LiFe 3.3v) nominal.
3. The battery pack shall have leads extending from the case for the positive and negative electrical connections using wire of adequate size to handle discharge rates acceptable to racing applications. Alternatively, the case shall have internal connection points for these wires clearly marked positive and negative so the user can apply the lead wires. Any type of metal connections that are incorporated in the battery pack must be substantially below the major surface of the plastic casing, to prevent any 'short circuit' if placed on a conductive surface.
4. The case must have the original suppliers label intact, stating:-  
The Part # of the pack, the rated voltage, the chemistry (LiPo/LiFe), the rated energy capacity of the pack in Wh. and the 'C' rating of the pack. The brand name/logo shall be easily readable.



**Approval Rule 3.2.1. --- Lithium Based Batteries.**

Lithium based batteries:

2S Batteries -- A minimum of one individual battery has to be received by 1st. Dec.

1S Batteries -- A minimum of one individual battery has to be received by 1st. Dec.

Each individual battery sample must be supplied with :-

(a) Safety test certification in accordance with:-

UN Manual of Test and Criteria ST/SG/AC.10/11/Rev.5, Part 3, Sub-Section 38.3, Tests T1 to T8.

(b) Technical Spec. sheet detailing the recommended charging rate, the maximum voltage when charging, case material, case thickness and method of sealing the case, the battery weight (max tolerance +/- 4%).

Subject to the Homologation Officer being satisfied that the new cell conforms with technical specifications and commercial availability, the cell will be legal for use from:-

2S Batteries - the following April 1<sup>st</sup>.

1S Batteries – the following March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cells received after the above submission dates (1<sup>st</sup>. Dec.) will not be included on the EFRA approved list for the following year. Any changes to the technical specifications or visual appearance of the battery or casing after the original approval will require re-approval.

**DISCLAIMER:-**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name).

On behalf of : \_\_\_\_\_ (Company name)

Agree with procedures and rules contained within pages one to three of this document.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature)

- Documents to be provided:-
  1. Copy of UN Test Certificate (as detailed above).
  2. Data sheet giving recommended charging safety criteria and maximum charging amps and voltage, including safe disposal procedures.
  3. Technical data sheet for each Battery Part # giving specifications of :- sizes and weight with tolerances.
  4. Details of Case Material, case nominal thickness and sealing process.
  5. Name & contact details of two (2) authorised distributors within the EFRA countries.
  6. Details of production supply dates or numbers already shipped.
  7. Declaration that the battery submitted for approval does not violate any existing World Wide patents.

Paul Worsley. -- (Battery Homologation Officer for EFRA).

**LIST OF EFRA MEMBER COUNTRIES.**

AUSTRIA	BELGIUM	BULGARIA	CROATIA	CYPRUS	CZECH REP.	DENMARK
ESTONIA	FINLAND	FRANCE	GEORGIA	GERMANY	GREAT BRITAIN	GREECE
HOLLAND	HUNGARY	IRELAND	ITALY	LITHUANIA	LUXEMBOURG	MONACO
NORWAY	POLAND	PORTUGAL	ROMANIA	RUSSIA	SLOVAK REP.	SLOVENIA
SPAIN	SWEDEN	SWITZERLAND	TURKEY			