



## **AVIATION BATTERY SYSTEMS, LLC**

4143 W. Venus Way Suite 1, Chandler, AZ 85226

### **TO: OUR CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS**

It has come to our attention that Airbus has released a Safety Information Notice regarding the safe use of the ground power batteries like the StartStick on Airbus aircraft. As a result, many of you have contacted us regarding how it may affect your operations.

Before we address the specifics of the letter, please allow us to give some background. In 2016, Airbus Helicopters Inc. (previously known as American Eurocopter) decided to include the StartStick as a part of their flyaway kit for the AS350-B3e and EC130-T2 models. As a result, Aviation Battery Systems released a Press Release to promote the relationship and its benefit to customers buying new aircraft. In the press release, it detailed the capabilities of the StartStick product including its ability to charge using a included 110v/240v AC power supply as well as in-flight. As a result, Airbus sent the attached letter to clarify its position with regard to proper use of the StartStick with their product. While mere presence of a Safety Information Notice may suggest that this was a response by Airbus to an incident, to be clear, there has NOT been any incidents, close calls, or otherwise with any StartStick's in the field, or in the factory. We are very confident in our design, which leads to safe operations.

We do understand, however, that there has been plenty of negative press in recent years with Lithium Ion batteries and it is important to know that all Lithium batteries are not created alike. Batteries used in the consumer electronics referenced by the Airbus Safety Notice are NOT the same as ones certified for use in Aviation. Strict standards have been developed for Lithium Batteries to be used in Aviation applications. For example, RTCA, who the FAA has recognized as the authority on the subject, has developed the industry's most strict Lithium Battery certification, DO-311, which is used to define Technical Standard Orders (TSO) for developing certified product. The United Nations Department of Transportation also issued strict tests commonly referred to as UN38.3 ([UN Manual of Tests and Criteria](#)) necessary for shipments on aircraft, which are recognized and referred to by the FAA for commercial and passenger transport of lithium batteries.

1/1/2018

Aviation Battery Systems, LLC

At Aviation Battery Systems we pride ourselves on our product; after all we're aviation industry pilots and engineers.

We are confident in the StartStick's performance, features and our unblemished track record when it comes to safety. We are proud to say that StartStick has passed – over two years ago - all required UN38.3 testing, while the Lithium Nano-Phosphate cells used in the StartStick have been certified to the strict DO-311.

Recently, a major US-based helicopter manufacturer certified an aircraft with a battery using the SAME cells as the StartStick. We, like others in the industry, make product safety a top priority and have implemented redundant hardware and software features to pass these tests and ensure safety at all times. These aspects are what make the StartStick one of the safest batteries in the world.

We are continuing to supply Airbus with product for their aircraft and look forward to delighting customers with our world-class product and service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me using the information below.

Thanks for your business and your interest in StartStick, world-class portable power.

**SINCERELY,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Todd Petersen', is written over a faint, circular watermark logo. The logo contains the text 'TODD PETERSEN' and 'CEO & CO-FOUNDER'.

**Todd Petersen, CEO and Co-Founder**

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