



# Department of the Interior SAFETY ALERT

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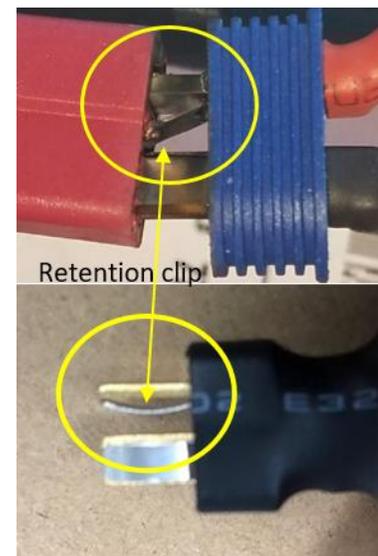
**Subject: Birds Eye View (BEV) FireFLY 6 Pro Dynamite Battery Charger**

**Area of Concern: Potential Charging Issues**

**Distribution: All UAS Activities**

**Discussion:** At the completion of a training flight using the BEV FireFLY 6 Pro unmanned aircraft, the aircraft batteries were attached to the Dynamite charger to recharge. The male connectors on the battery charger consist of two perpendicular blades that each have a retention clip to ensure a tight connection within the connectors. As the second battery was being plugged in, there was a loud electrical buzz and visible arc from the connectors. The battery charger was immediately switched off and the charging cables disconnected. Upon closer inspection, it appeared the retention clip on one of the blades of the battery charging cable had become bent outwards such that it contacted the opposite blade of the battery connector and caused a short circuit. In basic terms, a short circuit is a problem in an electrical circuit where two or more wires that are not supposed to come in contact with each other touch. A short circuit can result in a very high current flowing through the circuit.

The battery and charging cable were fused together and were not able to be separated by hand. Fortunately, there was no damage to the charger. The outcome could have been much worse. When using equipment, always check to see that the every piece is serviceable, especially electrical connections. Don't come up "short" when it's time to recharge.



*/s/ Keith Raley*

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