PML IGNITERS FAQ

2/15/02

Igniter manufacturers will specify the electrical usability (ohms and volts) range for their devices; contact the igniter manufacturer for their specifications.

Igniters

PML offers two different igniters

1. The PML Rapidfire™, which is included with each of our Thrusters™ motors, and also available separately.
2. Magnelite igniter kits, which allow you to make your own igniters, ranging from A size BP motors all the way up to M and larger motors, depending upon the igniter wiring size purchased.

See the Igniters page in our webstore for more information.

Ematches vs. Igniters

The difference between e-matches and igniters is that ematches are intended to ignite an easy-to-burn substance quickly, such as the BP used in rocket ejection charges. However, an igniter is intended and constructed to produce a large, hot ball of flame for an extended period (say, 0.5-0.75 seconds) to ignite a rocket motor. Ematches typically will not ignite motors unaided, as they do not produce a hot enough flame for long enough, whereas igniters certainly could ignite BP. Another significant difference between them, which is critically important for onboard rocket electronic use, is their current requirements. Igniters typically require much more current than an e-match; the current requirements are usually more than altimeters can provide. Therefore, for onboard altimeters, which need to ignite deployment charges, ematches are needed. For staging timers, which need to ignite motors, igniters are needed. Be sure to always check to be sure an e-match or igniter will work with your onboard electronic device.