

## LC-C300 electric hand warmer

If like me you are hardy, you probably fly all year round. The only parts of our bodies that it is difficult to keep warm is our hands. You can buy muffs that cover the transmitter but this is inconvenient for hand launching gliders. What is needed is a way of thawing out our hands between flights.

I have used sealed crystalline hand warmers. You boil the bag in water for ten minutes. The crystals melt and remain molten when they cool. At the field you bend a small piece of metal in the bag and the liquid starts to crystallise, releasing the latent heat. However they don't stay warm very long and once started can't be switched off.

Now we can use rechargeable electric hand warmers. For about £20 on Ebay you can get a hand-sized device that plugs into a 2A USB port. They store 10 Ah which gives several hours of warmth depending on setting. You can set the temperature to 40, 50 or 60°C and can switch it on and off to save charge. As a bonus you can use it as a power bank to power up or charge USB devices and there is a built-in LED torch. I have a USB port on my field charging battery so could recharge the device during a long cold day of flying.



Mine works fine. I won't know until it breaks and I dismantle it, but I imagine the device has a Peltier heat element rather than a coil. No doubt that heats up a block of some sort of salt.

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