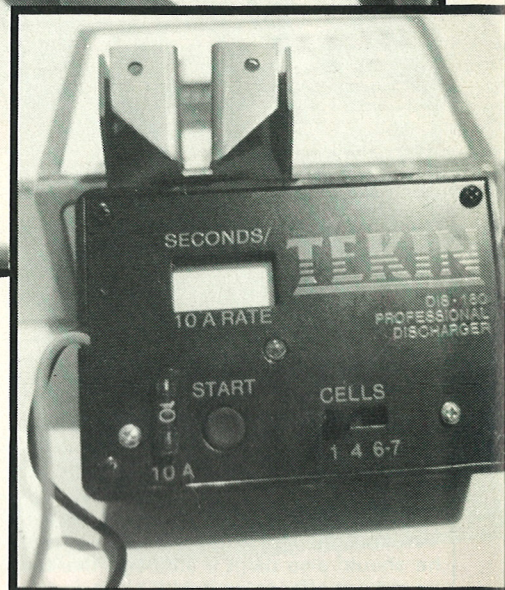
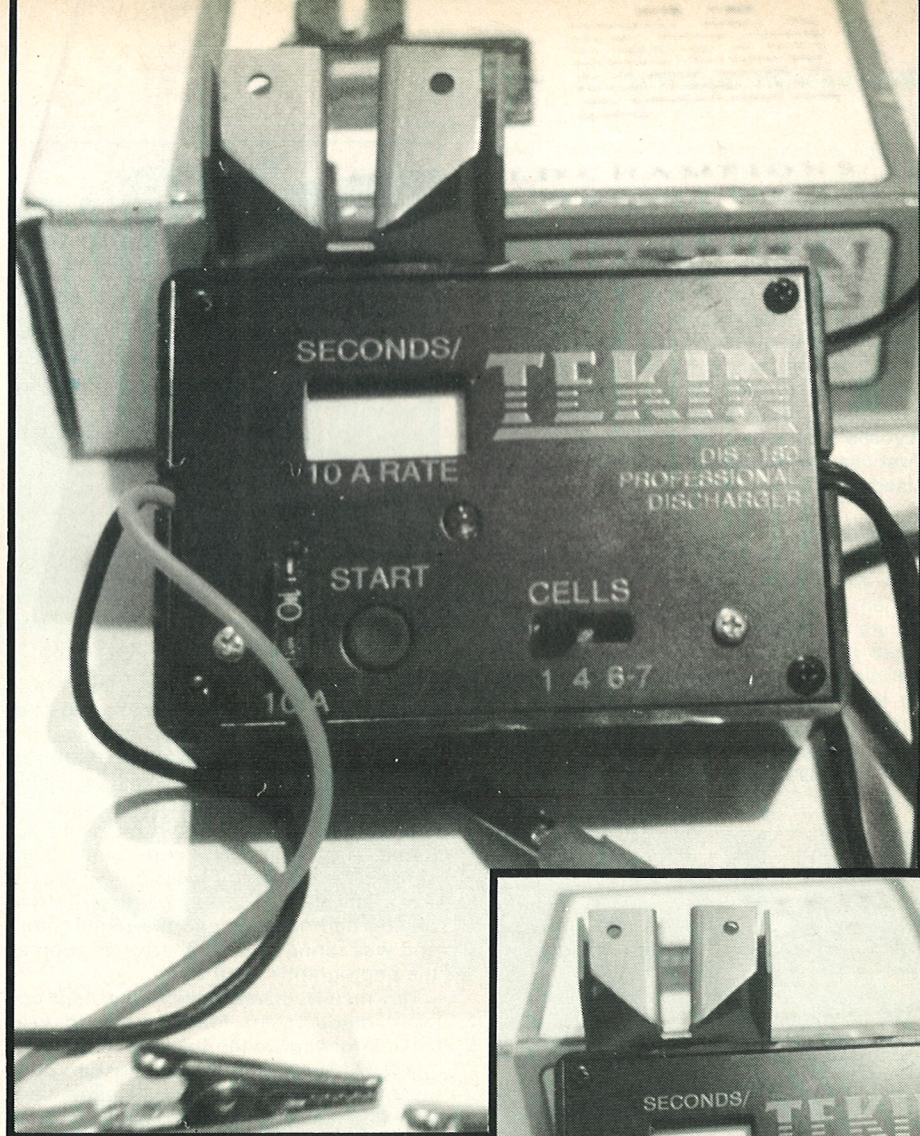


TEKIN • DIS 180 • CELL MATCHER

Kevin Griffin puts the new Tekin Dis 180 through its paces and finds new cells from old!



This discharger is yet another piece of very well made electrical equipment to come out of the American based firm of Tekin.

It's very ruggedly made, in a small black box, with a simple to operate sliding switch on the top, for the choice of cell discharge, ranging from one cell to four, six or seven. There is a push button start for the discharge cycle. It comes fitted with a 10amp fuse for protection, which under normal load should cope adequately. I checked the load that it puts across a cell during discharge and it draws 7amps. To test the usefulness of this little gadget, I decided to see whether I could revive some old SCRs that had basically been pensioned off earlier in the season.

The two packs of SCRs that were to be used for the test, I had stopped using because one or more cells in each pack had gone down in their capacity. This was noticeable by the car visibly slowing about two-thirds into the race, so in reality the battery packs were now of no use.

What I decided to do was to cycle the packs three or four times and then split them into individual cells. This I did, and then put each cell on the discharger. The discharger has a meter on its face, which counts in seconds the time it takes to discharge the cell. The meter is powered from a 12 volt supply and comes complete with crocodile clips for you to connect to a 12 volt battery and hook up to your cells. It takes approximately seven minutes to discharge one cell, so an evening is required to check 12 cells.

Results

The results that I came up with were most rewarding. The cells varied from the worst to the best by 54 seconds, so after noting the seconds for each cell discharge, it was a simple matter to chose six cells that were the closest to one another. I managed to match six cells to within nine seconds of one another, built them back into a pack and then tried them out. The result was amazing. From two packs of disused SCRs came one useful pack of SCRs. These were put into my buggy and powered a 15 single very quickly, for a full five minute race, with absolutely no visible signs of slowing at all. So if you have some money left over from Christmas, and battery packs that you consider past it, then a Tekin Discharger is a very useful little piece of equipment to have, well worth the outlay.

Available from: S.R.M. Racing
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