

Is anyone using one? What are the advantage/disadvantages? I know they are more expensive but does a need exist for one?

If memory serves me correctly, quite a few teams in Iowa are running both Programmable Controllers and the Lynch Motor. I personally have not researched this very much yet so am of little help.

I have HEARD one of the good features of these controllers is the ability to ramp up your accelerator, for instance your student traumps on the pot but the controller slowly brings you up to speed without creating a major spike in your battery draw. I have also HEARD you can set it to act as a cruise control in that you may program it to not draw over 4 ohms on a 5ohm pot, so students do not have to hold the pot steady for an hour, they can hold it full throttle and the controller does the steady work... (I say HEARD because I do not know personally.) AND THEN you start to get into telemetry :) Some Day...

Jesse Domer, Watertown High School

I too am interested in learning more about programming the controllers. Between myself and another teacher here at Sheboygan, I think we have two students that could really excel at tuning it in. I believe I heard at the Electrathon class the Alltrax controller is programmable. I'm just wondering if there is any special cable or software that is needed and whether or not it will come with the controller or purchased separately.

We have one here, I think you will need to get a serial cable to interface between the controller and pc. Try downloading the software first to take a look at it. There really isn't much programming, it's more of a setting, it's pretty simple stuff. We programmed our so it wouldn't ramp up so quickly. Student drivers can mash the pedal and it won't tear stuff up.