



# News Release

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March 7, 2007

## Bluefin Batteries for the Battlespace Preparation AUV Receive Navy Safety Approval

CAMBRIDGE, MA – February serves as a significant milestone in Bluefin battery technology. The fifteen-year evolution of the Bluefin Lithium-Polymer Battery was sprinkled with difficult challenges for the Bluefin Robotics engineers who took on the task to design a pressure-tolerant fully-submersible power system for the company’s autonomous underwater vehicles. These days, their efforts have begun to be rewarded with the official issuance of a safety approval for the batteries by the US Navy. The Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity (NOSSA) granted safety approval for the 3.5 kWh batteries for use in the Battlespace Preparation Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (BPAUV) system. The Program Executive Office for Littoral and Mine Warfare (PMS-403) purchased the BPAUV system as a mission module for the Littoral Combat Ship. The lithium battery safety approval issued by NOSSA authorizes use and deployment of the BPAUV system from all Navy surface platforms and shore-based facilities.

Dr Richard Wilson, Bluefin’s Head of Electrical Engineering shared, “Receiving the approval is a significant step forward for Bluefin. It took years to bring the battery technology from research to production. This approval validates our technical approach and provides a reliable COTS solution to underwater battery power.”

The testing results from the review provide valuable information about Bluefin battery technology. The batteries themselves were evaluated under a number of conditions including short circuit, overcharge, over-discharge, electrical safety device, thermal abuse, and physical abuse test conditions such as drop tests. Bluefin engineers attribute the batteries’ robustness to three manufacturing processes: careful testing of each cell before build, the encapsulation to protect the cells and finally, the proprietary balancing and protection electronics. Overall, the battery approval indicates a high level of confidence in the Bluefin products, specifically the battery systems. The processes making this particular system a success are practiced throughout the entire product line.



**Bluefin 3.5 kWh Lithium-Polymer Battery**

### About Bluefin Robotics Corporation

Bluefin Robotics is a global leader in the design, development and fabrication of autonomous underwater vehicles. Headquartered in Cambridge, MA, Bluefin is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Battelle Memorial Institute and specializes in engineering and commercializing the most durable, reliable, and user-friendly Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (UUVs) and derivative products, including navigation, propulsion, communication, power and adaptive behavior driven systems.

**For more information, visit [www.bluefinrobotics.com](http://www.bluefinrobotics.com) or contact Deanna Abraham at (617) 715 7080 or at [dabraham@bluefinrobotics.com](mailto:dabraham@bluefinrobotics.com).**

