

LTC News for Immediate Release

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Fast, Complete Standalone 1- to 16-Cell NiMH/NiCd Battery Charger

MILPITAS, CA – August 9, 2005– Linear Technology Corporation introduces the LTC4011, a complete NiMH/NiCd battery charger solution without any microcontroller or firmware programming required. The LTC4011 includes charge initiation, monitoring, protection, charge termination and constant current control circuitry for an autonomous charger solution. The IC can fast charge 1- to 16-cell NiMH or NiCd batteries at rates up to 4A from a wide range of input supplies and wall adapter voltages from 4.5V to 34V. Both $-\Delta V$ and $\Delta T/\Delta t$ charge termination can be active simultaneously in addition to a programmable safety timer.

A step-down constant current controller using synchronous rectification allows high current charging with high efficiency from input voltages up to 34V. With the LTC4011's 550kHz operating frequency, the solution allows the use of small sized inductors and capacitors thus minimizing printed circuit board area. Moreover, integrated PowerPath™ control ensures that a system load remains powered at all times and is protected from issues associated with load transients. Other features include battery qualification, recharge and Top-Off (for NiMH). The LTC4011 also provides output signals for indicating READY, Top-Off, end-of-charge, and FAULT status conditions.

The LTC4011CFE is offered in a thermally enhanced 20-lead TSSOP package and is ideal for use in portable instruments, diagnostic and control systems as well as back-up equipment. The LTC4011 is rated for operation from 0°C to +85°C. The 1,000-piece quantity pricing starts at \$4.60 each.

(more...)

Summary of Features: LTC4011

- Complete NiMH/NiCd Charger for 1 to 16 Cells
- No Microcontroller or Firmware Required
- 550kHz Synchronous PWM Current Source Controller
- PowerPath Control Support
- Precision 5% Accurate Programmable Charge Current
- Wide Input Range from 4.5V to 34V
- $-\Delta V$ and/or $\Delta T/\Delta t$ Fast Charge Termination
- Automatic NiMH Top-Off Charge

COMPANY BACKGROUND: Linear Technology Corporation was founded in 1981 as a manufacturer of high performance linear integrated circuits. Linear Technology products include high performance amplifiers, comparators, voltage references, monolithic filters, linear regulators, DC-DC converters, battery chargers, data converters, communications interface circuits, RF signal conditioning circuits, and many other analog functions. Applications for Linear Technology's high performance circuits include telecommunications, cellular telephones, networking products such as optical switches, notebook and desktop computers, computer peripherals, video/multimedia, industrial instrumentation, security monitoring devices, high-end consumer products such as digital cameras and MP3 players, complex medical devices, automotive electronics, factory automation, process control, and military and space systems.

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READER SERVICE: Call toll-free 1-800-4-LINEAR (for literature only), or go to the company's web site: **<http://www.linear.com>**

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