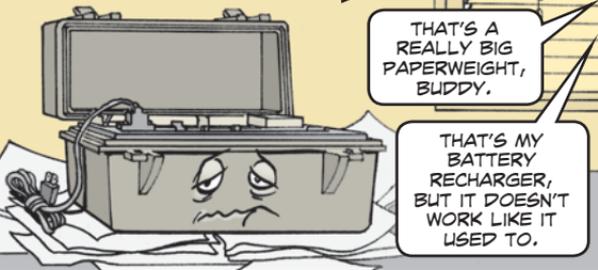


# It's All About the Software, Man!



**U**eed an anchor for your boat? How about a really large paper weight? It could be you already have one of those if you have a PP-8498/U Soldier portable charger (SPC) for rechargeable batteries, but haven't updated to the latest software.

Okay, it's not quite that bad, but the charger, NSN 6130-01-495-2839, is only as good as the software that tells it what to do and how to do it.

The latest and greatest software is Program H. It has all the enhancements of the previous programs, plus enhanced safety when charging old Li-Ion batteries. Also, the communications issues that existed when transferring software to the charger have been resolved by Program H.

To download the new software, you'll need USB-to-serial cable such as, NSN 6150-01-558-7214 or a serial cable, DB9 male to DB9 female with straight through connections—not a null cable. Then go to this website:

<https://www.monmouth.army.mil/cecom/lrc/lrchq/power/rechargebat.html>

Once at the website, go to the Charger Software upgrades page and follow the instructions. (If the last software you had was F and you're wondering about G, quit wondering. G was not for general distribution.)

It might serve you well to stop by the charger tutorial page and go through the training if it has been awhile since you took it. You'll also find a list of the batteries that can be recharged by this charger, and the adapters you'll need for each type of battery.

If you have any hardware or software questions about battery chargers or rechargeable batteries, the expert in the field is Don Brockel at DSN 992-4948 or (732) 532-4948. His email is: [donald.brockel@us.army.mil](mailto:donald.brockel@us.army.mil)

ONE FINAL WORD, IF YOU HAVEN'T SWITCHED TO RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES, YET. WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR—AN ENGRAVED INVITATION?

WELL, *THIS* IS YOUR INVITE! RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES ARE THE FUTURE. ARE YOU STILL STUCK IN THE PAST?

