

Sentry & Morningstar

Introduction:

With over four million sold since 1993, Morningstar is recognized as the expert in charging technology throughout the solar industry. As solar-plus-storage becomes more prevalent in mainstream installations, battery chemistries are becoming more advanced—and battery makers are increasingly looking for ways to help their customers maintain and protect their long-term investment.

Morningstar's *Energy Storage Partner program* (ESP) makes it possible for selected premium battery partners to offer additional value and support for their customers by offering them a more proven, better documented and controlled storage system. With energy storage typically accounting for a very large share of the overall system's cost, ESP helps advanced chemistry battery manufacturers to provide the maximum level of assurance that system owners and operators need. This document is intended to provide essential information and recommendations for integrating Morningstar charge controllers with the Energy Storage Partner's batteries. Proper integration of these products is dependent upon successful implementation of the custom settings outlined in the sections below. These settings are the result of cooperation between manufacturers and have been agreed upon by both parties.

Battery Overview:

Sentry Lithium is a premium range of batteries consisting of the highest quality Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO₄) composition. Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO₄) has been selected for the Sentry range due to its convenient cell voltage, high energy density and cycle life and most importantly due to it being one of the safest Lithium technologies available.

The Sentry Lithium range comes with all the benefits of LiFePO₄ conveniently designed into standard 12V Sealed Lead Acid (SLA) case sizes for easy replacement. With up to 8 times the cycle life of standard SLA technology - Sentry Lithium will lower your total cost of ownership and provide you with the latest in battery technology.

Features & Benefits:

- Large number of cycles >2000 (100% DoD)
- Safe and stable chemistry & Integrated BMS
- Greater capacity utilisation – 60% more than SLA
- High energy density (less than half of the weight of SLA)
- Fast recharge
- Flat Discharge Curve
- Extremely low self-discharge rate
- UL1642 at cell level

Models: <https://www.sealedperformance.com.au/range/sentry-lithium-series/>

Voltages: 12V, 24V

Amp Hour Capacities: 9-300Ah

Note: For information regarding battery bank configuration options, please contact the battery manufacturer.

For optimal integration, the recommended settings (based on 12V nominal values) are as follows:

Critical Settings:

Absorption Voltage = 14.60 V

Absorption Time = 15 minutes

Temperature Compensation = 0.0 V/degC (Disabled)

Float/Float Voltage/Timeout = Enable/13.80 V/30 min (Float stage not required while battery is in storage)

Equalize = Not enabled

Battery HVD/High Voltage Disconnect/Reconnect = Enable/14.80 V/14.60 V

Load LVD (Low Voltage Disconnect)..... 12.50 V

Load LVR (Low Voltage Reconnect)..... 13.25 V

Note:

Many lithium batteries include a BMS that can implement an internal battery disconnect in the event of a deep discharge to prevent permanent damage to the battery chemistry. It is important that proper low voltage load disconnect settings are used to prevent this from occurring during charging. Damage to the controller due to a battery disconnect during charging is typically not covered under warranty. Incidental damage to loads is also not covered under warranty.

Optional Recommended Settings:

Absorption Ext = Not enabled

Low Battery Temperature Foldback = Optional (High limit = 1 degC, Low limit = 0 degC)

Battery Service Reminder = Not enabled (Monitor Ah capacity with external shunt measurement)

Float Cancel = Not enabled

Max Regulation Limit = Not enabled

Battery Current Limit = Optional (Max recommended charge current = 0.5C)

Delay Before Load LVD 1 min (Possibly longer for cold temperatures)

Load Current Compensation Default = 0.002 Ω (V/A), should be calculated based on 0.35/C (Reduces Load LVD based on size of load with respect to battery Ah capacity)

Load HVD/High Voltage Disconnect/Reconnect..... Enable/15.00 V/14.80 V (May help to protect loads from potentially harmful voltage spikes that can be caused by external charging sources continuing to operate during battery removal)

Battery Charge LED Indications (Not intended for accurate SoC measurement):

LED G → G/Y 75%+ = 13.6 V (3.45 V/per cell)

LED G/Y → Y 50% - 74% = 13.4 V (3.325 V/per cell)

LED Y → Y/R 25% - 49% = 13.2 V (3.275 V/per cell)

LED Y/R → R 10% or below = 12.8 V (3.2 V/per cell)

(More information regarding these settings provided by Morningstar)

These settings are available for the Morningstar controllers listed below:

12-24V systems:

ProStar MPPT (includes low temperature foldback to limit the max. charge current)

SunSaver MPPT

ProStar (PWM) Gen 3 (includes low temperature foldback to limit the max. charge current)

12-48V systems:

TriStar MPPT (compatible with 12V, 24V, 36V, 48V, 60V nominal systems)

TriStar MPPT 600V (compatible with 24V, 36V, 48V and 60V nominal systems)

TriStar [PWM] (compatible with 12V, 24V, 36V and 48V nominal systems)

Communications hardware required for programming Custom Settings with MSView:

ProStar MPPT, ProStar (Gen 3), SunSaver MPPT

UMC-1 USB MeterBus Adapter- <http://www.morningstarcorp.com/products/usb-meterbus-adapter/>

MSC PC RS-232 MeterBus Adapter- <http://www.morningstarcorp.com/products/pc-meterbus-adapter/>

EMC-1 Ethernet MeterBus Converter-

<http://www.morningstarcorp.com/products/ethernet-meterbus-converter/>

TriStar, TriStar MPPT, TS-MPPT-600V

Includes an RS-232 port for connection to a PC.

EMC-1 Ethernet MeterBus Converter-

<http://www.morningstarcorp.com/products/ethernet-meterbus-converter/>

Tripp Lite U209-000-R USB / Serial DB-9 (RS-232) Adapter Cable (not available from Morningstar)

All TS-MPPT-60 (150V and 600V) models also include an Ethernet port and EIA-485 port.

MSView Software Download: <http://www.morningstarcorp.com/msview/>

MSView Configuration Files:

<https://www.morningstarcorp.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Sentry-MSView-Configuration-Files.zip>

Other links:

[Morningstar Best Practices by Battery Chemistry](#)

[Morningstar Custom Settings Info Pages](#)

IMPORTANT:

Sentry and Morningstar Corporation are separate companies with unaffiliated ownership.

Neither Sentry nor Morningstar Corporation make any warranties explicit or implied with this product information. Morningstar makes no representation or assumption of liability regarding the charging requirements for any type of battery or model.

Some of the material being presented may be based on information that has been provided by other parties such as battery specs and operational parameters.

Performance may vary depending on use conditions and application.