

I'll never forget the day...

It happened this summer. We were on summer holidays in Bohinj and I had my RC racing boat and all the new equipment with me to test it. First to test was a new transmitter, quiet a high-tech thing and I didn't expect any problems with it. So I decided to test a brand new metal prop in the same run also. I balanced and sharpened the prop and attached it to the drive shaft. Then I charged the batteries and we went to the lake. It was a sunny day afternoon and there were some swimmers and boats there on the lake. Because I was so sure, that everything will be OK, I decided to put the boat into the water. But I forgot one important thing, the Murphy's law. As you probably know, electric motors are making electromagnetic noise on many frequencies while they are running. And my new transmitter is using a frequency modulation of orders, given by me. So after few meters or run, the model went out of control. It was totally impossible to stop it easily. It had to hit something to stop. Then I thought: I've got a sharp metal prop on! If the boat will hit a person or a canoe in the water, I will be in real trouble. But I had some luck. After some tries of the boat to escape under the bridge down the Sava river, it hit the pier near me with full speed and suddenly stopped in the real meaning of the word. There was a real mess inside the model. The batteries, which are the heaviest part of the boat (it can achieve up to 40% of total weight), broke their bearer and flied ahead to the motor. On their way they also broke down two on five ribs. The motor mount was luckily enough strong to hold everything in place. Suprisingly, the boat was not in such a bad shape from outside in spite of wood construction. Anyway, this boat is now used just for exercise and I'll sold it when I'll have time to be at the telephone all the week and even more. In the evening, when I was repairing the remainings of the model, I added some capacitors to the motor, but I couldn't eliminate this interference. Maybe my combination of motor, speed controller and receiver is not 100% compatible. Rarely, but it can happen. So I'll have to use my old transmitter with amplitude modulation. I'll use the new one with the model airplane, which I'm building now.